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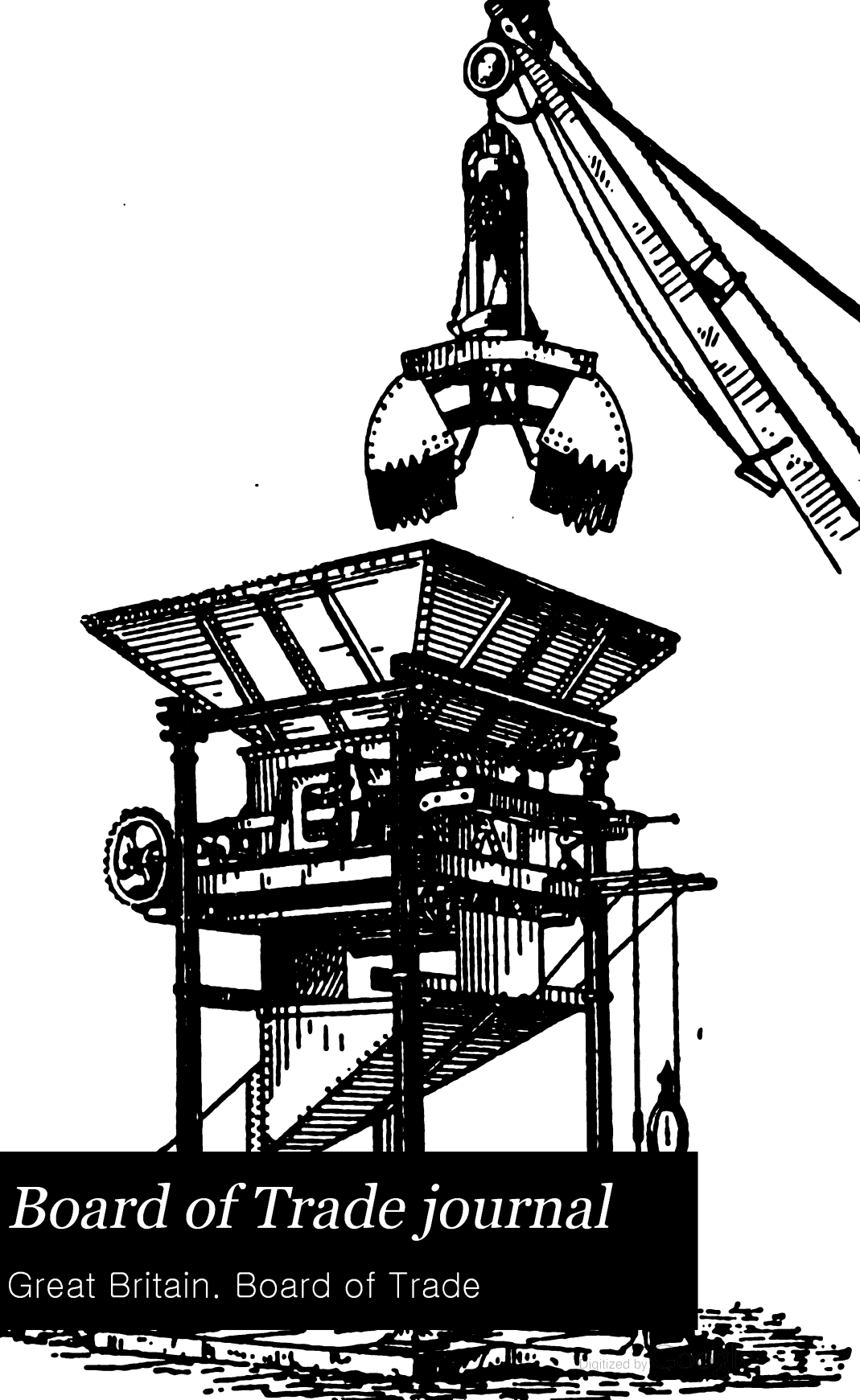

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

VOLUME XLIX.

April to June, 1905.

LONDON:
PRINTED FOR HIS MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE,
BY JAS. TRUSCOTT & SON, LTD.

1905.

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THE

Board of Trade Journal

(With which is incorporated the "Imperial Institute Journal.")

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

APRIL 6, 1905.

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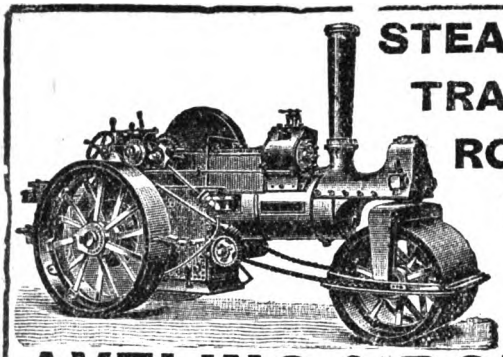

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The contract drawings may be inspected at the office of the undersigned, from whom copies of the specification, bill of quantities, and tender may be obtained upon deposit of £5 sterling, such deposit being returnable on receipt of a bona-fide tender.

The Engineer will meet contractors on the site by appointment.

Sealed tenders must be sent in to the Clerk to the Council, W. Spickett, Esq., Solicitor, Pontypridd, before 4 p.m. on Tuesday, the 18th day of April, 1905.

The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

(By order)

GOMER S. MORGAN,
Engineer.

Engineer's Office,
School Street, Pontyclun.
March 21st, 1905.

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In ordering, please specify

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N.B.—We also make Hard and Soft Shot, but strongly recommend Improved Chilled Shot for penetration.

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CONTRACTS.

Wembley Urban District Council.
Sale of Sludge-pressing Plant.

The above Council invite offers for the following plant at their Sewage Outfall Works at Alperton, Wembley:—

Vertical Air Compressor (9 in. cylinder).
Air Receiver (160 cubic feet capacity).
Sludge Receiver (160 cubic feet capacity).
Sludge Receiver (80 cubic feet capacity).
One Sludge Press (Johnson & Co., of Stratford).
One Sludge Press (Wolstenholme, of Radcliffe).
One Lime Mixer (48 in. diameter).
One Lime Mixer (33 in. diameter).

The plant may be seen at the works, and full information will be supplied upon application to Mr. Cecil R. W. Chapman, Surveyor to the Council, Public Offices, Wembley.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the highest or any offer.

WM. BAGSHAW,
Clerk to the Council.

Public Offices, Wembley, Middlesex.
March 21st, 1905.

Biggleswade Urban District Council.

Tenders are invited for the supply and delivery of 800 tons of Broken Granite and 200 tons of Slag.

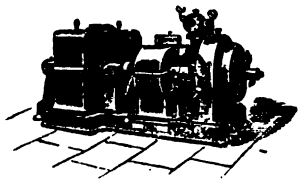
Specification, with form of tender, may be obtained at the office of Mr. Thomas Cockrill, A.M.I.C.E., Surveyor, Market Place, Biggleswade, Beds.

Tenders will only be accepted on the provided forms, and are to be delivered to me not later than 12 noon of April 11th next.

HENRY CHAUNDLER,
Clerk.

March 25th, 1905.

GREENWOOD & BATLEY, Ltd.,
Albion Works, Leeds,
GENERAL & ELECTRICAL ENGINEERS



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CONTRACTS.

Borough of Tunbridge Wells.

Supply of Road Metalling.

The Council of the Borough are prepared to consider tenders for the supply and delivery to the Corporation Siding, S. E. & C. R., Tunbridge Wells, of about 1,000 tons of either one of the following stones for road metalling purposes, viz.:—

Clee Hill (Basalt), Pwllheli or Penmaenmawr granite (North Wales), Penlee granite (Cornwall), Rhenish basalt, quartzite.

Persons tendering should quote for 1½ in. and 2 in. gauge respectively, and state whether hand broken or machine broken. The material to be delivered during the ensuing year in consignments of not less than 250 tons, at such times as required by the Borough Engineer (Mr. W. H. Maxwell, A.M.I.C.E.), from whom any further particulars can be obtained.

Tenders, together with small samples of the metalling quoted for, to be delivered not later than Tuesday, the 11th of April, at 10 a.m.

The person or firm whose tender is accepted will be required to enter into a contract and bond, with two approved sureties, for the due performance of the contract.

The Corporation do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

(By order)

W. C. CRIPPS,
Town Clerk.

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Use PARAFFIN or KEROSENE
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Light, Compact, and Reliable.
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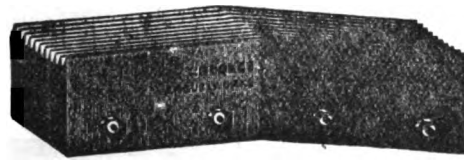

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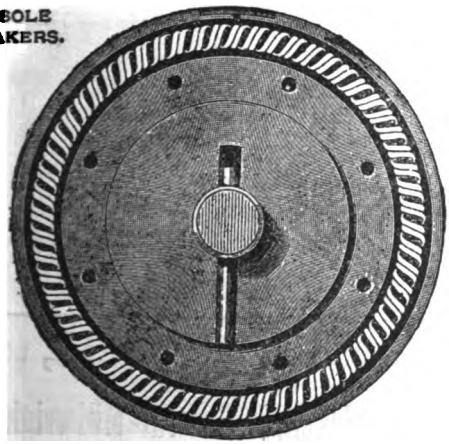

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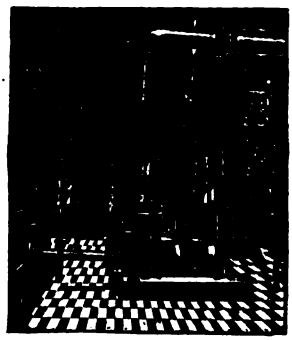

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And from their sub-agents, MESSRS. G. STREET & CO., LTD., 30, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.;
OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH; or,
EDWARD PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

I.—ANNUAL PUBLICATIONS:—

Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions for the Year 1903 compared with the four preceding years. Volume I. [Cd. 2043/04.] Price 7*s.* 1*d.* Volume II. [Cd. 2081/04.] Price 5*s.*

Annual Statement of the Navigation and Shipping of the United Kingdom for the Year 1903. [Cd. 2122/04.] Price 3*s.* 2*d.*

Bankruptcy. Report for the Year 1903. [312/04.] Price 9d.

Coal Exports for 1903. [96/1904.] Price 3½*d.*

Coal Tables.—Statistical Tables and Report relating to Coal and Petroleum Production in the Principal Countries of the World, 1883—1903. [295/04.] Price 5½*d.*

Colonial Import Duties Return, 1904. [Cd. 2185/04.] Price 2*s.* 1*d.*

Companies (Winding Up). Thirteenth Annual Report. [311/1904.] Price 6*d.*

Emigration and Immigration.—Statistical Tables and Report, 1903. [145/04.] Price 8*d.*

Extracts from Diplomatic and Consular Reports. Coal. [343.] Price 8*d.*

Foreign Import Duties, 1904. [Cd. 2340/05.] Price 2*s.*

Index to Consular Reports, 1903. [Cd. 2148/04.] Price 1*s.*

Iron and Steel, 1903. Statistical Tables. [244/1904.] Price 3*d.*

Labour Department.—Ninth Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom. 1901—02. [Cd. 1755/03.] Price 1*s.*

Labour Department.—Changes in Wages and Hours of Labour. [Cd. 2199/04.] Price 7*d.*

Labour Department.—Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on the Strikes and Lockouts of 1903, with Statistical Tables. [Cd. 2112/04.] Price 7*d.*

Life Assurance Companies' Return, 1904. [I./1905.] Price 3*s.*

Patent Office.—Report for the Year 1903. [178/04.] Price 5½*d.*

Railway Returns for the United Kingdom, 1903. [Cd. 2193/04.] Price 1*s.* 4*d.*

Shipping Casualties—Abstracts of Returns of Shipping Casualties on or near the Coasts of the United Kingdom, 1902-03 (with Charts and Appendices). [Cd. 2212/04.] Price 4*s.* 7*d.*

Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom. 1889-1903. [Cd. 2192/1904.] Price 1*s.* 3d.

Statistical Abstract for the British Empire, 1889-1903. [Cd. 2395.] Price 6*d.*

Statistical Abstract for the Colonies. 1889-1903. [Cd. 1912/04.] Price 1*s.* 10*d.*

Statistical Abstract for Foreign Countries. 1892 to 1901-02. [Cd. 2202/04.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

Statistical Tables relating to British Colonies, Possessions, and Protectorates. Part XXVII. 1902. [Cd. 2184/04.] Price 7*s.*

Tables showing the Progress of Merchant Shipping in the United Kingdom and the principal maritime countries, 1903. [294/1904.] Price 9*d.*

Tramways and Light Railways (Street and Road) Return. [310/05.] Price 6*d.*

II.—MONTHLY RETURNS—

Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for each month during the Year. February, 1905. [25-I/05.] Price 1*s.* 1*d.*

Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions [103/1905.] Price 4½*d.*

III.—OCCASIONAL RETURNS:—

Agricultural Products (Exportation). United Kingdom and Continental Countries. [313.] Price 1*d*

British and Foreign Trade and Industry Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts. [Cd. 1761/1903.] Price 3*s.* 6*d.*

British and Foreign Trade and Industry. Second Series of Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts. [Cd. 2337.] Price 3*s.* 6*d.*

British Colonies (Duties on Imports). No. 299/03. Price ½*d.*

Canada (Preferential Tariff for Goods from the United Kingdom). 310/03 Price ½*d.*

Certificates of Origin. Memorandum. [Cd. 1446/03.] Price 3*d.*

Commercial Mission to South Africa.—Report from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [Cd. 1844/03.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

Commercial Mission to Persia.—Reports from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [Cd. 2146.] Price 1*s.* 3*d.* [Cd. 2281.] Price 1½*d.*

Commercial Travellers. Memorandum. [Cd. 1961.] Price 3*d.*

Conciliation (Trades Disputes) Act, 1896. Fourth Report. [Cd. 1846/03.] Price 6*d.*

Continental Free Ports. Return. 344. Price 2½*d.*

Exports from the United Kingdom of Woollen and Cotton Goods and Cutlery in 1877, 1882, 1887, &c., and 1902. [327/03.] Price ½*d*

Food Supplies (Imported) Return. 179/03.] Price 4½*d.*

German Tariff (New) as modified by Treaties. [Cd. 2414.] Price 1*s.* 10*d.*

Imports and Exports of United Kingdom by Groups of Countries. [214/1903.] Price ½*d.*

Labour Department.—Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on Trade Unions in 1901, with Comparative Statistics, [Cd. 1348/02.] Price 11½*d.*

Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry and Commerce of the United Kingdom and some leading Foreign Countries. [Cd. 1199/1902.] Price 5½*d.*

Preferential Trade Return, showing the advantages granted to other countries in States where British trade does not enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment. [329/1903.] Price 1½*d*

Report to the Board of Trade by the Advisory Committee on Commercial Intelligence, with reference to their Proceedings. [Cd. 2,044/04.] Price 4½*d.*

Trade and Shipping of Africa, with Maps and Statistical Tables. [C 9223/99.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

Trade and Shipping of South-East Asia, with Map and Statistical Tables [Cd. 324/01.] Price 1*s.* 0½*d.*

Trade between the United Kingdom, Canada and Germany. Return. [328/1903.] Price 4*d.*

Trade of the United Kingdom with Germany. [131.] Price 1½*d.*

Trade of British Colonies with Foreign Countries. [110/1904.] Price 2*d.*

Trade (Colonies and United Kingdom). Return. [262/03.] Price 2*d.*

Unemployed in Foreign Countries. Report. [Cd. 2304.] Price 1*s.*

Wholesale and Retail Prices in the United Kingdom in 1902, with comparative Statistical Tables for a series of years. [321/1903.] Price 2*s.* 1*d.*

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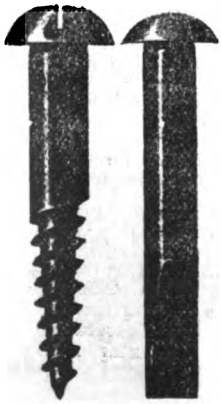

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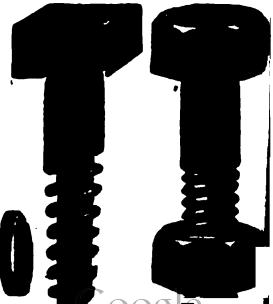

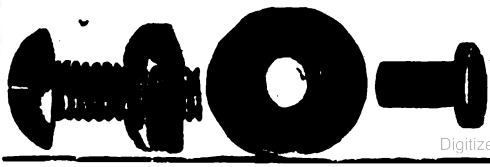

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APRIL 6TH, 1905.

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The ONLY 'GRAND PRIX' PENS

Exclusively Awarded for Steel Pens.

Numbers for use by Bankers

Barrel Pens, 225, 226, 262. Slip Pens, 332, 909, 287, 166, 404. In fine, medium, & broad Points.

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DOCK, 1,000ft. by 400ft.; LOCK, 250ft. by 50ft. No Dock Rates or Tonnage Dues charged upon Cargoes.

Large Timber Pond and extensive Quay Space for Storage of Timber.
All Cargoes can be Discharged Direct by Crane from Ship to Railway Wagons.
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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLIX.] April 6, 1905. [No. 436

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 45.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where there are at present on view, among other exhibits, samples of tobacco grown in Jamaica, and samples of cotton grown within the Empire, viz., eleven received from the British Cotton Growing Association, three from the West India Committee, and eleven from the Imperial Institute.

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 46.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: WAR OFFICE.

Bread, Flour, Live Cattle, and Meat.

Sealed tenders for the supply of bread, flour, live cattle and meat for military services, during six months, from the 1st June, 1905, will be received until 12 noon on the following dates:—Meat and live cattle tenders on Wednesday, 26th April, 1905, bread and flour tenders on Friday, 28th April, 1905, by the General Officers commanding the undermentioned districts:—

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Openings for British Trade.

Aldershot Army-Corps Command ...	Aldershot.
Southern Command, Salisbury Plain District	Tidworth House, Andover.
Southern Command, Western District	Devonport.
" " Southern District	Portsmouth.
Eastern Command, 5th Division ...	Dover.
" " 6th Division ...	Colchester.
" " Thames District ...	Chatham.
" " Woolwich District	Woolwich.
Irish Command, 7th Division ...	Curragh.
" " 8th Division ...	Cork.
" " Belfast District ...	Belfast.
Scottish Command	Edinburgh.
Northern Command	York.
Welsh and Midland Command ...	Chester.
London District	23, Carlton House Terrace, S.W.
Guernsey and Alderney District ...	Guernsey.
Jersey District	Jersey.

Forms of tender and conditions of contract may be obtained on application at the above-named Head-quarter Offices, by letter addressed to the Officer Commanding, Army Service Corps, or in person, between the hours of 10 and 4 o'clock.

The tenders must be properly filled up, signed, and dated; and no tender will be noticed unless delivered upon the proper form, in time, at the above-named Head-quarter Offices, under sealed envelope, marked "Tender" on the outside.

BRITISH INDIA.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

Tyres, Wheels and Axles, and Wagons.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing to supply—

1. Tyres for carriage and wagon wheels.
2. Wheels and axles for wagons.
3. Low-sided wagons.

The conditions of contract may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.). Copies may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W. Tenders are to be delivered at the latter office by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, the 11th April, 1905, for Nos. 1 and 2; and on Tuesday, the 18th April, 1905, for No. 3, after which times respectively no tender will be received.

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Openings for British Trade.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A London provision merchant has asked to be placed in communication with Canadian firms exporting cheese, butter, eggs, bacon, &c.

A firm of leather factors are desirous of doing business in Canada with English sole and harness leathers and Australian harness leathers.

Canadian Enquiries.—A Montreal firm desire to obtain agencies for English firms having goods they wish to bring to the notice of architects, painters, and retailers, *e.g.*, polishes, stains, brass cleaners, &c.

A combination of Western Ontario apple growers, having decided to pool their products for sale in Great Britain, will be seeking to arrange with one or more firms to take a large quantity of barrels packed and graded in good style.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A firm manufacturing essences, essential oils, fruit syrups and cordials, and various chemicals and drugs, seek the services of a Canadian resident agent.

A firm of wholesale tea dealers, direct importers from India, Ceylon, and China, wish to form a connection for the sale of teas in Canada.

A firm manufacturing tents, awnings, tarpaulins, and various kinds of canvas work would like to do business in Canada.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

EGYPT.

Clothing, &c.

An announcement appears in the Egyptian "Journal Officiel" of 25th March to the effect that tenders will be received at the Police Stores, Bulaq, Cairo, up till noon on the 15th May, 1905, for the supply of the undermentioned articles, for a period of nine months

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Openings for British Trade.

commencing on 1st July, 1905, and ending on 31st March, 1906, viz.:—

1. White and Khaki clothing.
2. Necessaries.
3. Palm-oil soap, &c.

Samples can be seen at the Police Stores, Bulaq, and also on application to Colonel Western, Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, London, S.W.

Persons wishing to tender for these contracts can see the conditions of tender and a descriptive list of the articles required, as well as the specification of tests, at the Ministry of the Interior (Accounts Office), or at the Office of Colonel Western at the address above-mentioned.

Tenders must be submitted on stamped paper. They should be addressed to the Director of Police Stores, Bulaq (Cairo), enclosed in sealed envelopes marked "Tender for the supply of clothing, &c."

No tender will be considered unless accompanied by a declaration from a Bank in Egypt, as stipulated in Art. 2 of the conditions of tender. If the declaration does not accompany the tender it should be sent to the Director of Police Stores, Bulaq, under separate cover.

The Administration are not bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

NORWAY.

Iron and Steel Materials, &c.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul-General at Christiania (Viscount Melville), that tenders are invited for the supply, to the Royal Norwegian Navy, of the following goods:—

Steel plates, steel angles, shaped steel, flat steel, rivet steel and nickel steel in bars, weldable ungalvanised angle-iron, semi-circular iron, steel pipes, copper and brass pipes and plates, and naval brass in bars.

Tenders from British firms must be sent in by agents residing in Norway, unless the firm is "well-known," in which case tenders can be sent direct, addressed to "Marinens Intendantur," Horten, Norway. Tenders will be received up to 1 p.m. on the 14th April.

A copy of the specifications and conditions of tender (in Norwegian) may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Apart from the usual Customs duties, a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. is given to Norwegian manufacturers.

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Openings for British Trade.

SWEDEN.

Proposed Electrification of Railways.

The "Journal de St. Pétersbourg" of 9th/22nd March states that the Swedish State Railways Department are about to submit a project to the Riksdag for the purchase of the waterfalls near the principal lines, at the cost of 4,000,000 crowns. These falls would, it is said, furnish sufficient electric power for the running of the trains.

For some time past, adds the "Journal," the question of working the Swedish railways by electricity has been under consideration; and it is considered desirable that the Government should acquire the necessary water power in good time.

DENMARK.

Rails.

The "Berlingske Tidende" of 29th March contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply to the Danish State Railways of about 12,400 tons of rails and connecting pieces, in accordance with drawings and conditions, drawn up in Danish, English, German and French, which may be inspected at the office of the State Railways, Copenhagen (address:—1 E, 3 die Sal, Gl. Kongevej, Kjöbenhavn B), or obtained therefrom at a cost of 4 kroner (about 4*s.* 6*d.*). Tenders must be sent in to the above-named office by 2 p.m. on 12th April.

NETHERLANDS.

Gas Coal.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Amsterdam (Mr. W. C. Robinson) that tenders will be received up to 18th April by the Municipal Council of Nijmegen for the supply of 17,220,000 kilogrammes (about 17,000 tons) of English gas coal.

Cast Iron: Copper.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) of 2nd April states that tenders will be opened on the 18th April, at the Ministry of Colonies, Amsterdam, for the supply of 395,000 kilogs. of cast iron, in nine lots, and 30,000 kilogs. of copper, in three lots.

Fresh Herrings at Ymuiden.

In his report for 1904, H.M. Consul at Amsterdam (Mr. W. C. Robinson) reports that the arrivals of fresh herrings at the fishery harbour of Ymuiden in 1904 were very large. The trade in this description was formerly insignificant, but in 1904 profitable prices were realised. Many Yarmouth steam drifters visited the harbour, and it may be expected, adds the Consul, that this branch of the trade will develop quickly and favourably.

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Openings for British Trade.

The extension of the harbour is being vigorously proceeded with—part of the same will be handed over to the trade in the course of the year. The large fish auction hall, having already proved insufficient in size, is being greatly extended by the Government, who are constructing a second hall of great dimensions with large cellars for the storage of ice and fish; this building will be ready in the course of a few months.

The supply of ice by sea was 9,225 tons of block ice for storage purposes.

BELGIUM.

Electric Lighting Materials.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Mr. E. C. Hertslet) that tenders will be opened on the 12th April for the supply, to the Belgian State Railways, of materials for electric lighting. Tenders, by registered letter, must be addressed to the "Administration des Chemins de fer de l'Etat, direction de la traction et du matériel, rue de Louvain, 13, Brussels."

Plans, models and samples are deposited at the Bureau des Adjudications, Musée Commercial, rue des Augustins, 15, Brussels, whence the special conditions of contract (No. 620) can be obtained.

A copy of the general conditions and of the special conditions of contract, forwarded by the Consul-General, may be examined at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Metallic Viaduct.

With reference to the notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 30th March, p. 583, respecting a call for tenders, to be opened on 19th April, for the construction of a metallic viaduct at Mouscron station, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received, from H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Mr. E. C. Hertslet), a copy of the general conditions governing contracts for supplies to the Ministry of Railways, Posts and Telegraphs, a copy of the conditions of contract, Type XXIII, supplementing the general conditions in regard to work of this nature, together with a copy of the special conditions (No. 45) laid down in respect to this particular contract. These may be examined at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

BELGIUM—*continued.*

Construction of New Sluice Gate, &c.

H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp also notifies that tenders are invited for the construction of a new sluice gate to dry dock No. 4 at Antwerp, and the removal of the existing gates. The estimated cost of the construction is 1,740*l.*, and a deposit of 120*l.* is required to qualify any tender.

Tenders should be sent in a registered envelope addressed to the Burgomaster, Hôtel de Ville, Antwerp. The adjudication will take place on the 11th April.

Specifications, price 5*d.* each, may be obtained from the Burgomaster at the above address. A copy, sent by H.M. Consul-General, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Canal Improvement Works.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) of 25th March, states that tenders will be opened on the 8th May, at the offices of the Provincial Government, Antwerp, for improvement works on the branch canal to Turnhout. The cost of these works is estimated at 908,054 francs (about 36,322*l.*). A deposit of 45,000 francs (about 1,800*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Tenders, addressed to "M. le Baron Prisse, Directeur des Ponts et Chaussées, 26, rue Van Dyck, Antwerp," not later than the 4th May. Specifications and plans will shortly be on sale at the above address.

Railway Plant.

The "Bulletin Commercial" of 1st April publishes a notice inviting tenders which will be opened at noon on the 19th April, at the "Bourse de Commerce," Brussels, for the construction of a railway between the Place Verboeckhoven and the Place Armand Steurs, in that city. The cost of the work is estimated at 340,910 frs. (about 13,636*l.*). A deposit of 20,000 frs. (about 800*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Full particulars and specifications (No. 43 of 1905, price 1 fr. 70 c.) may be obtained from the Chief Engineer, M. L. Motte, 13, Rue de Brabant, Brussels.

Hydraulic Cranes.

The "Bulletin Commercial" also notifies that the Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux invite tenders for the supply of six hydraulic cranes. Tenders, addressed to the General Manager, at 14, Rue de la Science, Brussels, must be posted not later than the 18th April, the day prior to that fixed for the adjudication. Specifications (price 1 fr.) and plans (price 2 frs. 80 cts.) may be obtained from the above-mentioned address.

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Openings for British Trade.

BELGIUM—*continued.*

Port Works.

The same issue of the "Bulletin" contains a notice inviting tenders for the carrying out of certain port improvement works at Ostend, at the estimated cost of 779,261 frs. (about 31,170*l.*). Tenders, in registered envelopes, addressed to M. Van Gansberghe, Directeur des Ponts et Chaussées, 1, Square Stéphanie, Ostend, must be posted not later than the 30th April; they will be opened on the 4th May. A deposit of 40,000 frs. (about 1,600*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Specifications (price 1 fr. 20 cts.) and plans (No. 1, price 2 frs. 20 cts.; No. 2, price 5 fr. 60 cts.; No. 3, price 2 frs.; and No. 4, price 4 frs.) may be obtained from the above-mentioned address.

Canal Lock Construction.

The "Bulletin" further states that the adjudication will shortly take place of tenders for the construction of six locks on the Charleroi-Brussels Canal, at the estimated cost of 1,724,174 frs. (about 68,966*l.*). A deposit of 86,000 frs. (about 3,440*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

SWITZERLAND.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Feuille Féderale Suisse" of 22nd March publishes a Decree granting a company, headed by M. Francesco Balli, Mayor of Locarno, a concession for the construction and working of an electric tramway from Locarno to Lake Maggiore and Minusio. The tramway will eventually be carried to Gordola.

Electric Railway Plant.

The "Feuille" of 29th March publishes a Decree granting Messrs. O. Birken and E. Strub, of Zurich, and M. J. Wennips, of Lugano, a concession for the construction and working of an electric funicular railway from Cassarate to the summit of Monte Brè.

The "Feuilles" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

SPAIN.

Railway Plant.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 29th March publishes a Decree authorising Don José Nogel Disdier to construct and work, for a term of 99 years, an industrial railway between Coin and Malaga.

Materials imported for this railway will enjoy the reductions provided for in the Law of 24th September, 1896.

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Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Gaceta" of 30th March publishes a Decree authorising the "Société des Tramways de Grenade et de Murcie" to substitute electric for animal traction on the tramway from Murcia to Alcantarilla and Espinardo.

Electric Tramway Plant.

With reference to the notice on p. 296 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 17th November, as to tenders for a concession for an electric tramway between Azcoitia and Zumaya, in the province of Guipúzcoa, on more favourable terms than those offered by Don Dionisio Sorseta Garcia, it is noted that the "Gaceta de Madrid" of 2nd April, publishes a notice to the effect that, no such tenders having been received, the concession has been granted to that gentleman.

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

BULGARIA.

Glassware.

According to "Handel's Museum" (Vienna), the imports of glassware into Bulgaria are steadily increasing, owing to the more general use by the rural population of lamp glasses, glass dishes, and drinking vessels, &c. The growing demand for these is chiefly due to the low prices brought about by competition between Hungarian, Austrian, and German manufacturers. Most of the glassware imported comes from Bohemia and Saxony: fine glass and crystal come from Bohemia and Hungary; cheap lamp glasses are imported from Germany and Turkey; coloured glasses for night lights are sent from Japan through agents in Constantinople.

CHILE.

Electric Railway Construction.

The "Chilian Times" reports the passage of a Bill through the Senate granting permission for the construction of an electric railway, which, starting from the port of Valparaiso, will pass through the Casablanca and Curacavi valleys and communicate with Santiago by the west, having a branch line connecting the Curacavi valley with the town of Nelipilla. The length from Valparaiso to Santiago will be 143 kilometres (about 89 miles).

All the materials, implements and machinery imported for the construction and exploitation of this line are to be free of Customs duties.

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Openings for British Trade.

URUGUAY.

Automobiles.

The "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce" (Paris) of 30th March states, on the authority of the "Bulletin" of the French Chamber of Commerce at Monte Video, that a petition will shortly be presented to the Monte Video Legislature, asking for the admission into that country of 100 automobiles, free of import duty. Automobiles are practically unknown in Monte Video, only four or five being found in the capital. It may be objected, remarks the "Bulletin" that this is due to the lack of good roads; but, it is added, this can hardly be the reason, for in Buenos Aires, where good roads are equally rare, hundreds of automobiles are to be seen. The real reason for their rarity in Monte Video is, it is stated, the high duty, which adds 50 per cent. to their cost. It is hoped that the temporary remission of duty, which is strongly supported by several deputies, will give rise to a strong demand for these vehicles.

CHINA.

Footwear.

The following memorandum on Chinese footwear by H.M. Commercial Attaché at Shanghai has been received in the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade:—

"Boots are only worn in China by officials, official servants, soldiers, sailors, and special hobnailed boots, occasionally in wet weather, by the common people.

"The universal form of foot covering is a shoe, whilst coolies and the poorest classes have to content themselves with straw or leather sandals, or go barefoot. Women's shoes are made at home, and, except in isolated cases in Shanghai, are never exposed for sale in shops. This remark does not apply to the peculiar form of shoe worn by Manchu women, which is perched on a sort of small stilt.

"In the north, during the winter months, the ordinary boot or shoe is often wadded, or lined with sheepskin, and of late years reproductions of Chinese boots and shoes, in indiarubber, have been imported from the United States and Germany, and found favour with Chinese at the Treaty ports.

"As is the case with hats, each part of the Empire affects certain peculiarities in the matter of shoes, these idiosyncrasies being largely based, either on the nature of the ground to be traversed, or on the material locally available for making soles. A Cantonese, for instance, could not wear a Pekingese shoe, and a Shanghai man wears a pattern different from either. Boots, however, con-

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Openings for British Trade.

CHINA—*continued.*

stituting part of official uniform, are almost invariably procured from Peking.

"The samples accompanying this memorandum have been purchased in Shanghai, which is the fashionable emporium for the rest of the Empire, and as such may be presumed to cater for all tastes with a certain amount of catholicity. Contact with foreigners is bringing about gradual, but unmistakeable, changes in Chinese dress, and, so far as shoes are concerned, is replacing with leather the old paper or felt sole.

"Sample 1.—Official boot made in Shanghai; cost 3·20 dols. per pair. The sole is made of paper, and used to be worn thicker. Pekingese boots are more expensive.

"Sample 2.—Specimen of a boot which has lately been adopted for winter wear by a certain proportion of the non-official classes. Cost 2·20 dols.; paper sole.

"Sample 3.—A comfortable very widely worn shoe; cost 1·50 dols., paper sole. The lower middle class have the sole made of leather throughout. This shoe has come into favour within the last two years, and is said to be worn by about 50 per cent. of Shanghai's native population. (This and No. 2 are the patterns reproduced in indiarubber.)

"Sample 4.—This is a pattern of a shoe which used to be very fashionable, but is gradually going out of favour in Shanghai. It may be still selling up country. Cost 1·40 dols., paper sole.

"These may be taken as representative patterns, although there are many others differing therefrom in minor details.

"In mountainous districts a leather outside strip to the sole is not in use. The whole sole is made of cloth, as thus a better grip of the ground is obtained.

"Manufacturers would do well to bear in mind that, although the adjective "unchanging" has been applied to the East generally, and more particularly to China, changes in fashion occur here with almost the same regularity as in the Occident."

The samples referred to above may be inspected at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

NOTE.—1·00 dol. roughly = 2*s*.

Motor Boats.

According to a recent report by the United States Consul at Hangchow, there is a good prospect for the sale of motor boats in China. The whole of China is a network of canals and rivers upon which motor boats, especially boats of light-draught capacity, can be worked. Within the past few years the accepted mode of

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Openings for British Trade.

CHINA—*continued.*

travel has been by house boat, towed by a steam launch. Where the regular lines of steam launches do not run, the old-time house boat with a "yuloh" or scull is employed. These boats are very slow, and grow more and more unpopular. It will be many years before this method of transport is displaced by railways, and in the meanwhile there is a growing favour for power boats, both for private and public service. The motor boat, as it is now made, is practically unknown in China. In Shanghai and other prominent trading points on the coast there are a number of modern small launches, but the great interior is practically untouched.

The popular-sized, medium to cheap grades, of boats are what are required in China.

As a rule the Chinese are good boat builders when they have good models to work from, and it would be practicable, says the Consul, for boat builders to ship boat machinery and have the hulls made in China.

EXHIBITIONS.

ITALY.

International Cycle and Automobile Show.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Milan (Mr. J. H. Towsey), forwarding copies, in French and Italian, of the prospectus and rules of an International Cycle and Automobile Show, which will be held at Milan from the 11th May to 1st June, 1905, under the auspices of the Automobile Club of Milan, the Italian Cyclists' Touring Club, the Italian "Elice" (Motor Boat) Club, and the Journalists' Association of Lombardy.

Applications for admission must reach the Committee before the 10th April, 1905.

Copies of the prospectus in French and Italian may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

ITALY—*continued.*

International Competition for Appliances for Prevention of Accidents in Factories.

With reference to the notice on p. 590 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 30th March, and to previous notices respecting the Milan Exhibition, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the "Association of Italian Manufacturers for the Prevention of Accidents in Factories" copies of the programme of an international competition for prizes, to be awarded by the Association, for appliances for the prevention of accidents in factories. The competition is to be held at Milan during the exhibition. Applications to compete must be sent in not later than 31st July, 1905, addressed to the President of the above-mentioned Association at Foro Bonaparte, 61, Milan.

Particulars of the kind of appliances for which the prizes are offered, together with the conditions of the competition, are set forth in the programme, copy of which may be obtained by intending competitors at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

BELGIUM.

Maritime Exhibition at Antwerp.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, from the Belgian Minister in London (Count de Lalaing) a notification to the effect that a maritime exhibition is to be held at Antwerp from the 13th August to 1st October next. The aim of the exhibition is to display a collection of models of ancient and modern ships, specimens of old time nautical instruments, charts, plans of harbours, sketches of old lighthouses, signals, &c., and engravings of ships, naval battles, &c.

Count de Lalaing states that he will furnish fuller particulars at a later date.

MINERAL PRODUCTION OF CANADA IN 1904.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Branch, a preliminary summary of the mineral production of Canada last year, from which the following particulars have been taken. For purposes of comparison, the corresponding figures for the year 1903 have been added:—

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Mineral Production of Canada in 1904.

Product.		1903. Quantity. (a)	1903. Value. (a)	1904. Quantity. (a)	1904. Value. (a)
Metallic—			Dols.		Dols.
Copper (b)	Lbs.	43,281,158	5,728,261	42,970,594	5,510,119
Gold...		—	18,834,490	—	16,400,000
Iron ore (exports)... ...	Tons†	368,233	922,571	168,828	401,738
*Pig-iron from Canadian ore	,,	42,052	707,838	68,297	901,880
Lead (c)	Lbs.	18,000,000	762,660	38,000,000	1,637,420
Nickel (d)	,,	12,505,510	5,002,204	10,547,883	4,219,153
Silver (e)	Oz.	3,182,000	1,700,779	3,718,668	2,127,859
Zinc (i)	Lbs.	900,000	48,600	477,568	24,356
Total value...		—	33,707,403	—	31,222,525
Non-Metallic—					
Actinolite	Tons†	550	3,108	—	—
Arsenic	,,	257	15,420	73	6,900
Asbestos	,,	31,780	891,033	35,635	1,167,238
Asbestic	,,	10,548	13,819	13,011	13,006
Chromite	,,	3,383	33,830	6,074	67,146
Coal...	,,	7,996,634	15,957,946	7,509,860	14,599,090
Coke (f)	,,	544,132	1,663,725	543,557	1,884,219
Corundum	,,	no returns.		919	101,050
Felspar	,,	13,228	18,066	11,083	21,166
Fireclay	,,	2,317	2,505	—	—
Graphite	,,	738	23,745	452	11,760
Grindstones	,,	5,538	48,302	4,509	42,782
Gypsum	,,	307,489	384,259	340,761	372,924
Limestone for flux ...	,,	277,452	259,244	200,646	176,973
Manganese ore	,,	135	1,889	123	2,706
Mica...	,,	—	159,473	—	152,170
Mineral pigments—					
Baryta	,,	1,163	3,931	1,382	3,702
Ochres	,,	6,226	32,440	3,925	24,995
Mineral water		—	100,000	—	80,000
Moulding sand	Tons†	3,568	7,256	3,423	6,790
Natural gas (g)		—	168,900	—	247,370
Peat...	Tons†	1,100	3,300	—	—
Petroleum (h)	Brls.	461,336	922,672	552,575	984,310
Phosphate	Tons†	1,329	8,214	917	4,590
Pyrites	,,	33,530	126,133	33,039	94,797
Salt	,,	53,537	334,088	68,777	318,628
Talc...	,,	688	2,064	840	1,875
Tripolite	,,	835	16,700	320	6,400

* The total production of pig-iron in Canada in 1904 from Canadian and imported ores amounted to 303,454 tons, valued at 3,582,001 dols., of which it is estimated 68,297 tons, valued at 901,880 dols., should be attributed to Canadian ore and 235,157 tons, valued at 2,680,121 dols., to the ore imported.

† The ton used is that of 2,000 lbs.

(a) Quantity or value of product marketed.

(b) Copper contents of ore, matte, etc., at 12.823c. per lb.

(c) Lead contents of ores, etc., at 4.309c. per lb.

(d) Nickel contents of ore, matte, etc., at 40c. per lb.

(e) Silver contents of ore at 57.221c. per oz.

(f) Oven coke, all the production of Nova Scotia, British Columbia, and the Northwest Territories.

(g) Gross return from sale of gas.

(h) Includes crude oil sold to refiners and oil sold for fuel and other purposes.

(i) Zinc contents of ores at 5.100c. per lb.

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Mineral Production of Canada in 1904.

Product.	1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
Structural Materials and Clay Products—		Dols.		Dols.
Cement, natural rock ... Brls.	92,252	75,655	56,814	49,397
„ Portland ... ... „	627,741	1,090,842	850,358	1,197,992
Flagstone	—	—	—	6,720
Granite	—	150,000	—	100,000
Pottery	—	200,000	—	200,000
Sands and gravels (exports) Tons†	355,792	124,006	399,809	129,803
Sewer pipe	—	317,970	—	378,894
Slate	—	22,040	—	23,247
Terra-cotta, pressed brick, &c. ...	—	386,532	—	400,000
Tiles, &c.	—	‡	—	275,000
Building material, including bricks, building stone, lime, &c.	—	5,650,000	—	5,667,000
Total structural materials and clay products	—	8,017,045	—	8,428,053
Total all other non-metallic...	—	21,202,062	—	20,392,987
Total non-metallic	—	29,219,107	—	28,821,040
„ metallic	—	33,707,403	—	31,222,525
Estimated value of mineral products not returned	—	300,000	—	300,000
Total	—	63,226,510	—	60,343,165

† The ton used is that of 2,000 lbs.
‡ Included with building material in 1903.

In comparing this record with that of previous years, it must be borne in mind that complete figures are never available at this time of the year, so that in a number of items the data are necessarily partly estimated. Allowing for this, there nevertheless remains a falling off of about 2,250,000 dols. in the grand total. This does not necessarily indicate a general slackening in the permanent mineral industries of the country, but rather a gradual return to natural conditions after a few years of abnormal inflation due to the rapid exploitation of the richer and easily accessible portions of the Yukon placers. To this cause can be attributed nearly 2,000,000 dols. of the decrease shown.

Gold.—Practically every province in Canada shows a falling off in gold production, in 1904, as compared with 1903. Nova Scotia, which ordinarily has an output of about half a million dollars, shows a decrease of nearly half its production. Several reasons are given for this, among which may be mentioned (1) the extreme drought during the past season, (2) the closing down, owing to financial difficulties, of a number of the best producing mines, and (3) the cessation of production at the Richardson mine owing to the destruction of the shaft and workings by an extensive crush.

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Mineral Production of Canada in 1904.

Silver.—The bounty granted by the Dominion government on the production of lead ores seems to have stimulated the operations of the silver-lead mines. The St. Eugene mine, in East Kootenay, was re-opened and its production probably accounts for the greater part of the increase.

Lead.—Although over twice as much lead was produced in 1904 as in 1903, the output is still far from its former maximum, viz.:—31,584 tons in 1900. It is said that lead-corroding works are to be established at Montreal by a Chicago firm for the manufacture of white lead and other pigments which will require a large amount of pig lead per annum.

Copper.—The copper contained in ore, matte, etc., shipped from Canadian mines in 1904 was about 21,485 tons, as compared with 21,342 tons in 1903. In Ontario there was a falling off of over a thousand tons, which was more than made up by the increased production from the Boundary district and the Coast district of British Columbia.

Cobalt, etc.—The discovery of certain cobalt, nickel, arsenic and silver ores which was made public in November, 1903, promises to add largely, in the near future, to the production of these metals. The deposits were found during the building of the Timiskaming and Northern Ontario Railway, the roadbed running almost over the top of the first of the outcrops discovered. All of the deposits thus far discovered possess certain features in common. The minerals represented are chiefly smaltite, niccolite and native silver, with smaller quantities of erythrite, dyscrasite, chloanthite and tetrahedrite. In some the native silver is very abundant, and a sample, which was fairly representative of one of the smaller veins, showed an assay value of 5,237 dols. per ton. Analysis of the ore from one of the veins composed mainly of smaltite showed from 16 to 19 per cent. of cobalt, 4 to 7 per cent. of nickel, 60 to 66 per cent. of arsenic, and 3 to 7 per cent. of sulphur. The ores are thus so rich that comparatively small veins could be worked at a handsome profit.

Nickel.—The following were the results of operations on the nickel-copper deposits of Ontario in 1903: Ore mined, 203,388 tons; ore smelted, 118,470 tons; matte produced, 8,924 tons; matte shipped, 10,154 tons; copper contents of matte shipped, 2,455 tons; nickel contents in matte, 5,274 tons; value of matte shipped, 2,193,198 dols. According to customs returns, exports of nickel in matte, &c., were as follows:—

	Lbs.
To Great Britain	2,028,908
To United States	9,204,961
Total	11,233,869

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Mineral Production of Canada in 1904.

Zinc.—About 533 tons of zinc ore, worth 3,700 dols., were shipped during the year from the Long Lake zinc mine in the county of Frontenac, Ontario. No returns have been received of zinc production in British Columbia.

Iron.—Exports of iron ore were 168,828 tons, valued at 401,738 dols. In addition to the ore exported, about 180,932 tons of ore, worth about 489,687 dols., were mined in Canada and charged to Canadian blast furnaces.

Coal and Coke.—With the exception of a small decrease in shipments, coal production in Nova Scotia in 1904 shows but little change. A smaller amount of coke was made owing to the smaller production of pig iron by the Dominion Iron & Steel Company. Efforts are being made to find new markets farther west in Ontario, as well as to increase the exportation. In the north-west territories many small mines have been opened, and the output shows a substantial growth.

Asbestos.—The production of asbestos, divided into crude and mill stock, was as follows:—Crude, 4,239 tons, valued at 509,001 dols.; mill stock, 31,396 tons, valued at 658,277 dols.; total, 35,635 tons, valued at 1,167,278 dols. The exports of asbestos, according to Customs returns, were 37,272 tons, valued at 1,160,887 dols.

Natural Gas.—There was a somewhat increased production of natural gas in Ontario, due entirely to operations in the Welland field, production in the Essex field having dropped to very small amounts. The development of the gasfield at Medicine Hat, North-west territories, seems to have been continued with much success. The gas commission of the town of Medicine Hat has now six producing wells, one of which has been put down to a depth of nearly 1,000 feet, yielding 1,125,000 feet per 24 hours.

Cement.—The production of natural rock cement, which has for a number of years been small in comparison with the output of Portland cement, shows another large decrease in 1904, the sales being only 56,814 barrels, valued at 49,397 dols., as compared with 92,252 barrels, valued at 74,655 dols., in 1903.

In the absence of complete returns, Portland cement statistics have been partially estimated. The following is, however, a close approximation:—Portland cement sold, 900,358 barrels, valued at 1,272,992 dols.; Portland cement manufactured, 908,990 barrels; stock on hand 1st January, 124,919 barrels; stock on hand 31st December, 133,551 barrels.

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TRADE OF CAPE COLONY.

With reference to the statement on pp. 497-8 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 16th March, the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 7th March publishes statistics showing the value of the trade of Cape Colony during the month of January, 1905, as compared with January, 1904. The following tables show the total value of the imports and exports, including transit trade in both cases, of the principal and other articles into and from the Colony during the periods above-mentioned:—

Imports into Cape Colony.*

Principal and other Articles.	Month of January.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Provisions of all kinds (*includes butter, cheese, chicory, coffee, meats, sugar, and tea*) ...	276,000	342,000
Metals and metal manufactures (*includes iron, lead, machinery, hardware, wire fencing, &c.*)	253,000	156,000
Wood, and manufactures of (*includes furniture*)	207,000	91,000
Haberdashery	91,000	81,000
Leather and leather manufactures (*includes boots and shoes, and saddlery and harness*)...	72,000	74,000
Cotton manufactures	66,000	72,000
Corn and grain, &c. (*flour, maize, oats, wheat, and rice*)	95,000	66,000
Wearing apparel (*includes hats and caps*) ...	68,000	66,000
Stationery (*includes books*)	54,000	38,000
Alcoholic beverages (*includes wine, beer, and spirits*)	34,000	27,000
Woollen manufactures	28,000	24,000
Pipes, iron and earthen	24,000	22,000
Drugs and chemicals	25,000	20,000
Carts and carriages (*includes bicycles*) ...	29,000	18,000
Soap and candles...	20,000	18,000
Coal, coke, and patent fuel	20,000	17,000
Tobacco of all sorts	17,000	17,000
Agricultural implements	24,000	16,000
Cement	7,000	15,000
Arms and ammunition (*includes dynamite and blasting compound and powder*) ...	8,000	13,000
Confectionery (*includes jams*)	9,000	10,000
Earthen manufactures	13,000	9,000
Bags, all sorts	4,000	9,000
Animals, living	28,000	8,000
Paints, varnish and turpentine...	8,000	7,000
Oilman stores (not edible)	6,000	6,000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	9,000	5,000
Oil, mineral	13,000	4,000
Linen manufactures	6,000	3,000
All other articles of merchandise	403,000	348,000
Total merchandise ... £	1,917,000	1,602,000
Articles imported for the Colonial Government	158,000	50,000
Specie	3,000	—
Grand total, imports ... £	2,078,000	1,652,000

NOTE.—The official figures of imports into Cape Colony are exclusive of imports by the Imperial Government, but it may be noted that supplies for the Army are still partly contracted for on the spot.

* Exclusive of imports of diamonds and gold from States outside the Colony :—1,267,000*l.* in January, 1904, and 1,511,000*l.* in January, 1905.

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Trade of Cape Colony (continued).

Exports from Cape Colony.

Principal and other Articles.	Month of January.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Gold (raw)	1,188,000	1,499,000
Diamonds	385,000	373,000
Wool (washed, scoured, and in the grease) ...	75,000	130,000
Copper ore	—	117,000
Ostrich feathers	60,000	75,000
Hides and skins	24,000	36,000
Hair, Angora	16,000	13,000
All other articles of merchandise	13,000	198,000
Total merchandise ... £	1,761,000	2,441,000
Imported goods, re-exported	30,000	33,000
Specie	153,000	—
Grand total, exports ... £	1,944,000	2,474,000

NEW ADDRESS OF BRITISH COMMERCIAL AGENT IN UNITED STATES.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by the Foreign Office that the address of Mr. E. Seymour Bell, British Commercial Agent in the United States, will, on and after the 1st April, 1905, be: "Care of His Britannic Majesty's Consulate-General, New York, United States of America."

GERMAN IRON TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

The following particulars of German foreign trade in iron, and of the production and home consumption of iron in Germany, are extracted from a memorandum by H.M. Consul-General at Berlin (Mr. P. Schwabach), received at the Board of Trade through the Foreign Office:—

During the quinquennial period from 1898 to 1903 there was a remarkable increase in the exports of iron from Germany, viz., from 1·6 million tons to 3·5 million tons, but in 1904 they receded again to 2·77 million tons. The large increase in the years preceding 1904 was chiefly due to forced sales of pig iron and partly manufactured goods; this policy of "dumping" was adopted by the German iron works under the pressure of difficulties created by the collapse of the home market in 1901. Sales were often effected at, and even under, cost price. The German Steel Syndicate, which was formed at the end of February, 1904, recognised

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German Iron Trade and Industry.

the desirability and even necessity of discontinuing a practice which had raised the outcry against the "dumping" of German iron abroad. With the gradual improvement of the home trade, the German iron industry became less dependent on foreign markets, and could dispense with a large part of the export trade in pig iron and partly manufactured goods, though not without inconvenience to some of the works which had become specially interested in this trade. The year 1904 witnessed a considerable reduction of the exports of pig iron, waste and scrap iron, and partly manufactured goods, and also of rolled iron goods, while iron manufactures were again exported in larger quantities.

The following table shows the production and home consumption of pig-iron in Germany in each of the last five years :—

Year.	Total Consumption.	Production of Pig-iron.	Consumption.	Inland Production of Pig-iron.
			Per Head of Population.	
	Metric tons.	Metric tons.	Kilos.	Kilos.
1900	7,377,339	8,520,540	131·7	152·1
1901	5,102,508	7,880,087	90 3	139·5
1902	4,367,330	8.529,810	76·6	149·6
1903	5,650,404	10,085,634	98·1	173·9
1904	6,624,427	10,103,941	115·7	174·5

The production of sundry manufactures of iron in 1900 and 1903 was as follows :—

Manufactures of Iron.	1900.	1903.
	Metric tons.	Metric tons.
Rails and rail fittings	921,974	1,079,966
Railway sleepers and bed plates	231,998	271,607
„ axles, wheels and rims	187,554	148,001
Stock iron (shaped iron, iron for building purposes, &c., &c.)	2,761,809	3,169,217
Plates and sheets (exclusive of tin-plate)	828,440	993,554
Tin-plate	30,705	45,132
Wire	457,457	677,342
Pipes...	388,991	380,508
Forged pieces, parts of machinery, &c.	243,996	259,236
War material	30,282	18,592

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TRADE OF FRANCE WITH THE AFRICAN CONTINENT IN 1900-1903.*

The following particulars relating to the trade of France with the African Continent in the years 1900-1903 are in continuation of the article which appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 4th February 1904.

The value of the **total** trade (special) of France with the African Continent as shown in the French Trade Volume ("Tableau Général du Commerce et de la Navigation") for the years concerned, was 34,312,000*l.* in 1903 (the latest year for which the details are available), as compared with 31,883,000*l.* in 1902, the imports into France from Africa for home consumption being valued at 17,669,000*l.* in 1903, as against 16,048,000*l.* in 1902, and the exports from France to Africa of French produce and manufactures amounting in value to 16,643,000*l.* in 1903, as compared with 15,835,000*l.* in the previous year.

The following tables show (A) the value of the imports into France, and (B) the value of the exports from France, from and to the African Continent, for each of the four years 1900-1903, distinguishing the trade with the French and British possessions in Africa and with Egypt, Morocco and Tripoli:—

A.—Imports into France from Africa.

(Exclusive of Specie.)

From—	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
French Possessions and Protectorates in Africa†—	£	£	£	£
Algeria	6,636,000	7,912,000	10,148,000	10,512,000
Tunis	1,004,000	868,000	1,067,000	2,056,000
Senegal	1,232,000	1,265,000	960,000	1,280,000
Other parts of French West Africa‡	337,000	427,000	614,000	662,000
Total French Africa† ...	9,209.000	10,472,000	12,789,000	14,510,000
British Africa—				
British South and West Africa ...	542.000	398,000	451,000	514,000
British East Africa§	70,000	166,000	151,000	191,000
Total, British Africa§ ...	612,000	564,000	602,000	705,000
Egypt	1,651,000	1,299,000	1,186,000	1,768,000
Morocco	644,000	611,000	487,000	440,000
Tripoli	144,000	97,000	81,000	67,000
All other parts of Africa‖	160,000	166,000	208,000	179,000
Total, Africa ... ... £	12,420,000	13,209,000	16,048,000	17,669,000

* See "Board of Trade Journal" for 8th December, 1904, for an article on the Trade of the United Kingdom with Africa.

† Excluding Madagascar and French East Africa.

‡ French Congo, French Soudan, French Guinea, Ivory Coast, and Gulf of Benin (Dahomey).

§ Including Mauritius.

‖ French East Africa, the Portuguese, German, Italian, and Spanish possessions in Africa, Liberia, and the Independent State of the Congo.

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Trade of France with the African Continent in 1900-1903.

B.—Exports from France to Africa.
(*Exclusive of Specie.*)

To—	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
French Possessions and Protectorates in Africa*—	£	£	£	£
Algeria	10,374,000	10,359,000	10,766,000	11,466,000
Tunis	1,389,000	1,625,000	1,705,000	1,838,000
Senegal	778,000	1,065,000	948,000	650,000
Other parts of French West Africa†	448,000	310,000	464,000	466,000
Total, French Africa†.. ...	12,989,000	13,359,000	13,883,000	14,420,000
British Africa—				
British South and West Africa ...	40,000	43,000	33,000	45,000
British East Africa‡	153,000	147,000	161,000	175,000
Total, British Africa‡... ...	193,000	190,000	194,000	220,000
Egypt	1,147,000	1,027,000	1,180,000	1,348,000
Morocco	344,000	418,000	456,000	522,000
Tripoli	45,000	34,000	45,000	56,000
All other parts of Africa§	154,000	95,000	77,000	77,000
Total, Africa	14,872,000	15,123,000	15,835,000	16,643,000

* Excluding Madagascar and French East Africa.
† French Congo, French Soudan, French Guinea, Ivory Coast, and Gulf of Benin (Dahomey).
‡ Including Mauritius.
§ Including French East Africa, the Portuguese, German, Italian, and Spanish possessions in Africa, Liberia, and the Independent State of the Congo.

Algeria.—The principal articles imported into France from Algeria are wines, cereals, live animals and their products, phosphates, cork, and ores, the values of which in 1901, 1902, and 1903 were as follows:—

C.—Imports into France from Algeria.

—	1901.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£
Wine	1,732,000	3,131,000	4,774,000
Cereals	2,732,000	2,963,000	1,353,000
Other agricultural produce (*fruits, olive oil, vegetables, "Crin vegetable," halfa, &c.*) ...	556,000	780,000	708,000
Live animals (*horses, mules, oxen, sheep, swine*).	1,388,000	1,693,000	1,991,000
Animal products (*wool, hides and skins, horns, wax, &c.*)	552,000	372,000	563,000
Tobacco, raw and manufactured...	120,000	71,000	92,000
Cork and other kinds of bark	179,000	161,000	170,000
Phosphates	156,000	96,000	78,000
Ores, metalwork, and machinery	111,000	122,000	137,000
All other articles	386,000	759,000	646,000
Total	7,912,000	10,148,000	10,512,000

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Trade of France with the African Continent in 1900-1903.

The **exports** from France to Algeria consist of piece-goods of all kinds (2,163,000*l.* in 1903, as against 2,275,000*l.* in 1902); iron, steel, machinery and other metals and manufactures of metal (1,010,000*l.* in 1903, as compared with 846,000*l.* in 1902); articles of apparel and manufactures of every description, and provisions, drugs, oils, wines and spirits, &c.

Tunis.—The products of Tunis imported into France consist of cereals, olive oil, ores, phosphates, and wine, valued in 1901, 1902, and 1903, as follows:—

D.—Imports into France from Tunis.

—	1901.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£
Cereals	202,000	332,000	1,085,000
Olive oil	262,000	179,000	185,000
Phosphates	71,000	133,000	161,000
Ores	27,000	82,000	67,000
Wine	25,000	20,000	64,000
All other articles	281,000	322,000	495,000
Total	868,000	1,068,000	2,057,000

The exports from France to Tunis are principally manufactured goods of all sorts coming under the same headings as those exported to Algeria.

French West Africa.—The imports into France from the various French possessions on the West Coast of Africa, the French Soudan and French Congo consist of ground nuts, rubber, palm oil, and other tropical produce; and the exports thereto from France, of piece-goods, manufactured articles, rice and wines, &c.

British Africa.—The trade of the British possessions in the south and west of Africa is given under one heading in the French trade volume, an arrangement which renders it impracticable to differentiate the value of the trade of France with Cape Colony and Natal from that of her trade with the British Colonies on the west coast. The imports into France, however, from British South Africa must be quite unimportant and chiefly confined to wool in the grease, as the total value of imports into France from *all* British African possessions combined, in 1903, amounted to only 705,000*l.* (as compared with 602,000*l.* in 1902), and of this 478,000*l.* represents the value of the imports of oil nuts and oil seeds, and 78,000*l.* the value of the imports of palm oil, all of which articles are tropical produce. Wool in the grease to the value of 17,000*l.* was imported into France in 1903 (as against 19,000*l.* in 1902) from British Africa.

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Trade of France with the African Continent in 1900-1903.

Egypt.—The imports into France from Egypt in 1903 were valued at 1,768,000*l.*, as compared with 1,886,000*l.* in 1902, and the total French trade with Egypt in 1903 shows an increase of 50,000*l.* over 1902.

The following table may be interesting as showing the comparative growth of French and British trade with Egypt in the years 1900–1903:—

Years.	Trade of Egypt with France.			Trade of Egypt with United Kingdom.		
	Imports into France from Egypt.	Exports from France to Egypt.	Total Trade France-Egypt.	Imports into U. K. from Egypt.	Exports from U. K. to Egypt.	Total Trade U. K.—Egypt.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
1900...	1,651,000	1,147,000	2,798,000	12,586,000	6,000,000	18,586,000
1901...	1,299,000	1,027,000	2,326,000	11,906,000	6,315,000	18,221,000
1902...	1,886,000	1,180,000	3,066,000	13,765,000	6,162,000	19,927,000
1903...	1,768,000	1,348,000	3,116,000	12,984,000	6,560,000	19,544,000

Of the 1,768,000*l.* worth of goods imported from Egypt into France in 1903, 1,201,000*l.* represents the value of raw cotton, 134,000*l.* oil seeds and fruits, 116,000*l.* exotic gums, and 82,000*l.* dried vegetables. The exports from France to Egypt in 1903, valued at 1,348,000*l.*, consisted principally of silk piece-goods (214,000*l.*), other piece-goods (219,000*l.*), made-up articles of apparel, wines and liqueurs, skins and furs, metal work, pottery and glassware, &c.

Morocco and Tripoli.—The total imports into France from these two countries were valued at 508,000*l.* in 1903, of which 341,000*l.* was for wool and skins. The rest of the imported goods consisted of feathers, sponges and agricultural produce. Of the exports from France to the same two countries valued altogether in 1903 at 577,000*l.*, sugar of all kinds was valued at 291,000*l.*, raw silk 91,000*l.*, and silk manufactures, 30,000*l.*

Other Parts of Africa.—The value of the total trade of France with all parts of Africa not previously mentioned, and including the Independent State of the Congo, and all the Portuguese and German African possessions in addition to the French Colony at Djiboutil amounted, imports and exports combined, to only 256,000*l.* in 1903 as compared with 285,000*l.* in 1902. The details reveal nothing of interest.

"**Cotton Piece-goods**" is an important item in the French export trade to Africa. The following table shows the value of such

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Trade of France with the African Continent in 1900-1903.

goods exported from France to the African Continent in 1900–1903:—

Trade in Cotton Piece-Goods.

To—	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
	£	£	£	£
Algeria	1,419,000	1,498,000	1,650,000	1,571,000
Tunis	51,000	59,000	59,000	69,000
Senegal	85,000	67,000	38,000	29,000
Other parts of French West Africa*	15,000	10,000	8,000	10,000
Total, French Africa* ...	1,570,000	1,634,000	1,755,000	1,679,000
British Africa*	15,000	15,000	12,000	17,000
Egypt	61,000	61,000	73,000	102,000
Morocco	9,000	12,000	11,000	12,000
Tripoli...	1.000	1,000	1,000	1,000
All other parts of Africa	13,000	3,000	1,000	2,000
Total Africa ... ... £	1,669,000	1,726,000	1,853,000	1,813,000

* See notes on p. 21.

TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Minimum Weight of British Manufactured Cigars and Cigarettes for Exportation.

The Board of Trade are in receipt of a copy of a General Order of the Board of Customs (No. 22/1905) notifying that the minimum weight of packages of British manufactured cigars or cigarettes exported as merchandise, either from a bonded warehouse or on drawback direct from the premises of a licensed tobacco manufacturer, has been reduced from 20 lb. net to 12 lb. net.

Exportation of British Manufactured Tobacco on Drawback by Parcel Post.

Another General Order (No. 23/1905), which has recently been issued by the Board of Customs notifies that on and after the 1st April, British manufactured tobacco, including cigars, cigarettes, and commercial snuff, may be exported on drawback by means of the parcel post direct from a licensed tobacco manufacturer's premises.

Annexed to this Order is a copy of a General Order of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue containing the Regulations under

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which this concession will be allowed; together with a specimen of an amended form of shipping bill which must be prepared by the exporter and handed, together with a duplicate and the other necessary documents, to the Inland Revenue Officer who supervises the weighing, &c., of the tobacco.

The above-mentioned regulations may be seen by persons interested on application at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Prohibition of the Importation of Beerine.

In the "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" for the 28th January last, a Proclamation is issued by the Governor-General, dated 26th January, 1905, providing for the prohibition of the importation of beerine (a preparation containing picric acid and used in the manufacture of beverages) into the Commonwealth.

BRITISH NORTH BORNEO.

Export Duties on Gambier and Pepper Cancelled.

The Board of Trade have received a communication from the Superintendent of Customs at Sandakan, dated 24th February last, stating that the duty of 2½ per cent. *ad val.* imposed on gambier and pepper exported from British North Borneo has been cancelled, and that these articles have been placed on the free export list.

JAMAICA.

Imposition of Surtax on Goods Imported.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, a copy of a telegram from the Governor of Jamaica stating that the Tariff Ordinance assented to on 16th March imposes till 31st March, 1906, a *surtax* of 6 per cent. on duties paid on articles imported into the Colony.

NORWAY.

Tariff Changes.

With reference to the notice which appeared in the "Journal" for the 10th November last on the subject of proposed changes in the Norwegian Customs Tariff, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a telegram from H.M. Consul-General at Christiania notifying the following changes in the Tariff from 31st March :—

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

Articles.	Duty per Kilog.	
	Former.	From 31st March.
	Kroner.	Kroner.
Cocoa beans and husks	0·05	0·15
Cocoa in cakes or tablets and chocolate...	0·40	0·45
Cocoa powder, unsweetened	0·40	0·35
Fruits and orange peel in brine	0·10	0·35

NOTE.—Kroner (100 öre) = 1*s.* 1⅓*d.* 10 öre per kilog. = 0·6*d.* per lb.

The Board are further informed that, with the exception of the above changes, the Storthing proposes the extension of the previously existing rates of import duties in Norway until the date of the passing of the new Customs Tariff.

SWITZERLAND.

Monopoly Duty on Certain Ethers, &c.

The "Feuille Fédérale Suisse" for the 22nd February, contains the text of a notification of the Federal Department of Finance, dated 4th February, announcing that from the 20th February, monopoly duty (in addition to the import duty) will be levied on certain ethers, &c., on importation into Switzerland, at the following rates:—

	Per 100 kilogs. (gross). Francs.
Alcoholized ether (Hoffmann's spirit)	80
Nitric ether	90
Formic ether, ether of rum, essence of rum ...	100

SPAIN.

Rate of Exchange for Adjustment of Customs Duties payable in Gold.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 1st April contains a Royal Order notifying that the average rate of exchange (premium of exchange on Paris) during the second fortnight of March was 32·54 per cent., and that the corresponding reduction in payments of Customs duties which have to be made in gold during the first fortnight of the present month is to be 25 per cent.

BOLIVIA.

Payment of Customs Duties—Importation of Silver Coin Prohibited.

According to the "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce" for the 9th March, a Bolivian Law dated 2nd December, 1904, provides that from the 1st January, 1905, 50 per cent. of the Customs duties are to be paid in gold at the exchange rate of 12½ bolivars to the pound sterling. Should this 50 per cent. be paid wholly or partly in silver, the part so paid will be subject to a surtax of 5 per cent. Sums less than 12½ bolivars may be paid in silver without surtax.

The exportation of silver coin is declared free of duty, and the importation of the same is prohibited under penalty of confiscation.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAPAN.

Consumption Tax on Textiles—Import Duty on Cocoons and Rice—Additional Consumption Tax on Sugar.

In continuation of the notices which have appeared in the two preceding issues of the "Board of Trade Journal," particulars are given below of the principal remaining provisions of the "Extraordinary Special Taxes Law" passed by the Japanese Diet on 28th December last, so far as these affect imports.

(1.) The consumption tax on textiles is fixed at 15 per cent. *ad valorem* in the case of woollen textiles and 10 per cent. *ad valorem* in the case of textiles other than woollen. The tax on woollen textiles is paid by the persons taking delivery of them from a manufactory, from the customs, or from a bonded warehouse. With regard to the consumption tax on textiles other than woollen (which was to take effect from 1st February last), stamps to the proper amount must, in substitution for the payment of the tax, be affixed to such textiles before they are removed from a manufactory, from the customs, or from a bonded warehouse; but stamps need not be affixed in cases where, prior to the removal of the goods, the tax has been paid.

Textiles exported abroad, or textiles which it is intended to export abroad as manufactured goods, are exempt from consumption tax.

(2.) New import duties, to take effect on the 1st July next, are imposed on cocoons and rice, as follows:—

Cocoons (all kinds)	10 % *ad val.*
Rice, hulled and unhulled	15 % „

(3.) The *additional* consumption tax on sugar (leviable on imported as well as on home-produced sugar) is modified by this Law and is now as follows:—

Sugar—	Additional Consumption Tax.
Class I.	1·00 yen per picul.
Class II.	*2·80 „ „
Class III.	*4·30 „ „
Class IV....	*4·70 „ „

A complete translation of the Law enacting these increases of taxation may be seen by persons interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Gold and Silver Ores added to Free List.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Japanese Law published in the "Official Gazette" of 1st January, 1905, adding *gold and silver ores* to the list of articles which may be imported into Japan duty-free.

This law is to take effect after the expiration of six months from the date of publication, *i.e.*, on the 1st July next.

* These rates should be substituted for those given in the * note on p. 606 of last week's "Journal."

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

NATAL.

Amended Regulation *re* Coaling in Natal Ports.

The "Natal Government Gazette" of 7th March contains the text of a Government Notice (No. 164 of 1905), approving the following amended rule in substitution for Rule No. 244 of the Port and Harbour Regulations:—

"244. Vessels calling for the sole purpose of taking bunker or cargo coal, the product of Natal, shall be charged, inclusive of wharfage, pilotage, and light dues, one half the ordinary Port dues; or, alternatively, shall, at the option of the ship, be charged, inclusive of wharfage, pilotage, and light dues, on the actual quantity of coal taken at the rate of 6*d.* per ton up to 1,000 tons, and 3*d.* for each ton over 1,000 tons. The minimum charge in either case shall be an amount equal to the ordinary light dues."

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Austrian-Lloyd Sugar Freights to India and Ceylon.

In a recent despatch to the Foreign Office, the Acting British Consul at Trieste (Mr. J. A. Nathan) reports that the Central Association of the Sugar Industry in Vienna have been informed by the Commercial Direction of the Austrian-Lloyd Steam Navigation Company of Trieste that all those sugar manufacturers who agree to bind themselves to export their sugar by the Austrian-Lloyd steamers from 1st September, 1905, until 1st August, 1906, will be charged ten shillings per ton freight from Trieste or Fiume to Calcutta, Bombay, Karachi and Colombo.

ITALY—SICILY.

Increased Freight Rate on Sumach to the United States.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Palermo (Mr. S. J. A. Churchill) reporting an announcement in the Palermo press to the effect that the Shipping Agencies at that port have combined to raise the freight on sumach to the United States by 4*s.* per ton.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Freight Rates for Grain from Baltimore.

The Acting British Consul at Baltimore (Mr. A. G. Coates), in his recent report to the Foreign Office, gives a table of the ocean freight rates for grain (per bushel and per quarter) from Baltimore during each month of the year 1904. For details of these rates, reference should be made to the report itself (*Annual Series*, 3,326), obtainable from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., at a cost of 1½*d.*

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MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY.

TRANSVAAL.

Asbestos.

Commenting on the registration of a syndicate for mining asbestos in the Transvaal, "South African Mines" (Johannesburg), states that samples submitted to experts in England and America have brought the response that there is a ready market for this class of material, the transatlantic price current being 15*l.* per ton, and that of England 25*l.*

The Consulting Engineer assumes that the Syndicate has from an inch and a-half to four inches over its area, and if the affiliated rocks are not too hard, no fears are entertained regarding the profitable aspects.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Coal Imports in 1904.

The following table showing the quantity of coal imported into the Straits Settlements in 1904, with comparative figures for the preceding year, is extracted from a recent trade report furnished to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade by Mr. A. Stuart, Registrar of Imports and Exports at Singapore:—

From—	1903.	1904.
	Tons.	Tons.
Australia	44,468	38,667
Calcutta	76,356	125,612
Sarawak	1,982	3.231
United Kingdom	53,020	42,969
Dutch Borneo	754	3,977
French Indo-China	10,496	4,612
Japan	388,720	400,628
Total	575,796	619,696

From the United Kingdom, 10,045 tons of patent fuel were imported in 1904, not included in the above figures.

GERMANY.

Lignite Coal Industry.

The Board of Trade have received through the Foreign Office a report by H.M. Consul at Cologne (Mr. C. A. Niessen) on the lignite coal industry of Germany. This report gives statistics of the output of the product, its price and utilization, and particulars of the manufacture and adaptability of lignite coal briquettes.

Mr. Niessen's report may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

FRANCE.

Coal Trade of Brest.

H.M. Consul at Brest (Capt. H. F. Gye, R.N.) reports that the total amount of coal imported into his Consular district in 1904 was 192,745 tons (all from the United Kingdom except 240 tons), as compared with 165,158 tons in 1903 (all of which was British).

The average price per ton for steam coal at Brest last year was from 1*l.* to 1*l.* 7*s.*, and household coal from 1*l.* 12*s.* to 1*l.* 15*s.*, including Customs and town dues. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,330.)

FRANCE—MADAGASCAR.

Export of Gold in 1904.

According to figures published in "La Quinzaine Coloniale," 2,460 kilogs. of gold, of the value of 7,380,000 fr., were exported from Madagascar in 1904, as compared with 1,910 kilogs., of the value of 5,730,000 fr. in 1903.

ITALY—SICILY.

Coal Trade.

Referring to the notice published on p. 423 of the "Board of Journal" of 2nd March, the following is a complete statement of the quantity of coal imported into Sicily during 1904 at each of the principal ports. Comparative figures for 1903 and 1902 are added :—

Ports.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Palermo	147,630	160,182	135,786
Messina	105,942	91,050	157,508
Catania	90,310	100,495	91,051
Syracuse	8,806	5,687	5,997
Licata	23,928	19,598	27,651
Girgenti	22,802	30,136	24,516
Marsala	565	1,010	1,000
Trapani	25,158	24,713	24,222
Milazzo	5,647	8,240	8,796
Pozzallo	—	—	376
Augusta	—	—	9,121
Total	430,788	441,111	486,024

DUTCH AND FRENCH GUIANA.

Gold Production.

The following statement of the production of gold in Dutch and French Guiana (Surinam and Cayenne) during the last five years is based on official figures supplied by H.M. Consul at Paramaribo (Mr. J. R. W. Pigott) :—

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

—	Surinam.	Cayenne.
	Grammes.	Grammes.
1900	842,272	2,378,477
1901	752,842	4,021,442
1902	587,604	4 645,983
1903	682,417	3,597,000
1904	801,879	3,437,339

AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 1st April, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.* 9*d.*
Barley	25*s.* 1*d.*
Oats	16*s.* 11*d.*

For further particulars see p. 39.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 40, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 1st April, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

CAPE COLONY.

Irrigation Bill.

An extraordinary issue of the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette," dated 28th February, contains the text of a Government Bill, proposed to be introduced into Parliament during the ensuing session, to consolidate and amend the Law relating to Irrigation.

The "Gazette" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

ARGENTINA.

Measures to Develop Rubber Cultivation in Salta.

The "Boletin Oficial" of Argentina of 2nd March contains a Decree commissioning two agricultural experts to undertake a study of the rubber plants found in the province of Salta, with a view to reporting on the possibilities of developing the growth of that product, which up to the present has not been cultivated in Salta.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 30th March, 1905, was 51,295 (including 370 bales British West Indian and 53 bales British West African), and the number imported during the 13 weeks ended the 30th March was 1,161,601 (including 644 bales British West African and 923 bales British West Indian). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 30th March, 1905, 9,236 bales, and for the 13 weeks, 144,072 (including 16 bales British West African).

For further details see p. 39.

UNITED KINGDOM—RUSSIA.

Agreement respecting Joint-Stock Companies, &c.

The following is the official translation of the Agreement recently concluded between the United Kingdom and Russia respecting Joint-Stock Companies and other Commercial, Industrial, and Financial Associations as published in No. 2 of the Treaty Series issued by the Foreign Office this year:—

"The Government of His Britannic Majesty and the Imperial Russian Government having deemed it expedient to define reciprocally the position of Joint-Stock Companies and other commercial, industrial, and financial associations in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and in the Empire of Russia, the undersigned, in virtue of the powers conferred upon them, have agreed as follows:—

"1. Joint-Stock Companies and other commercial, industrial, and financial associations domiciled in either of the two countries shall, provided that they have been duly constituted in accordance with the laws in force, be recognised as having a legal status in the other, and in particular shall have there the right of appearing before the Tribunals, either for the purpose of bringing an action or of defending themselves.

"2. In any case the said companies and associations shall enjoy in the other country the same rights as are or shall be accorded to similar companies of any other country.

"3. It is understood that the foregoing provision does not affect the question of determining whether any such company constituted in one of the two countries shall or shall not be admitted to carry on its trade or industry in the other country, this admission remaining always subject to the existing regulations on this point in the latter country.

"4. It is understood that the foregoing provisions are applicable both to companies and associations constituted before the signature of the present Agreement, as well as to those which may be constituted subsequently.

"The present Agreement shall come into effect from the day of signature, and shall remain in force for one year after its denunciation by either Party."

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Miscellaneous.

NEW ZEALAND.

Trade in 1904.

The following particulars of the trade of New Zealand in 1904, with comparative figures for the preceding year, are based on official figures published in the "New Zealand Trade Review":—

The value of the **Imports** into New Zealand during the years mentioned was as follows:—

Ports.	1903.	1904.
	£	£
North Island	7,076,863	7,396,244
South Island	4,847,860	5,335,070
Specie	712,716	391,664
Parcels post	151,236	165,939
Total	12,788,675	13,288,917

The values of the principal classes of produce **exported** during the years 1903 and 1904, were respectively:—

Goods.	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Wool	4,041,274	4,673,826
Meats—Frozen, preserved, cured and salted ...	3,323,621	2,879,431
Tallow	517,859	357,974
Butter	1,318,067	1,380,460
Cheese	194,998	185,486
Sheep skins and hides	524,185	455,216
Rabbit skins	40,727	40,822
Sausage skins	65,385	56,442
Leather...	94,023	67,957
Gold	2,037,831	1,987,501
Silver	91,497	112,875
Kauri gum	631,102	501,817
Timber	240,983	254,021
Coal	128,927	139,898
Grain	533,678	392,343
Grass seed	109,049	95,871
New Zealand hemp	595,684	710,281
Other New Zealand produce...	339,302	309,566
Total New Zealand produce...	14,838,192	14,601,787
Re-exports	133,734	136,963
Specie	38,452	9,598
Totals	15,010,378	14,748,348

The quantities of frozen meat exported in the last two years, were as follow:—

——	1903.	1904.
	Lbs.	Lbs.
Mutton	146,311,528	116,816,613
Lamb	76,564,464	67,120,036
Beef	21,027,446	18,189,763
Total	243,903,438	202,126,412

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Miscellaneous.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

Liquor Licensing Amendment Ordinance, 1905.

With reference to the notice published at pp. 72–3 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th April, 1903, it is to be noted that an extraordinary issue of the "Government Gazette" of the Orange River Colony for 21st February contains the text of an Ordinance (No. 10 of 1905) entitled "An Ordinance to Amend the Liquor Licensing Ordinance, 1903."

By Section 3 of the amending Ordinance "A license as 'agent of a foreign firm taking orders for liquor' shall authorise a representative of a licensed dealer in liquor doing business beyond the limits of this Colony to take orders for the supply of liquor in quantities for the sale of which a wholesale license is required to be consigned direct to licensed dealers in liquor in this Colony and to no others.

"Nothing in the 'Liquor Licensing Ordinance, 1903,' relating to the application for licenses shall apply to a license 'as agent of a foreign firm taking orders for liquor' which shall be issued at any time by the receiver of revenue in any district upon application and due payment therefor."

Stamp Duties and Licenses Amendment Ordinance, 1905.

With reference to the notice published on p. 274 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 7th May, 1903, it is to be noted that the issue of the "Gazette" for 21st February contains the text of an Ordinance (No. 13 of 1905) to Amend the Laws relating to Stamp Duties and Licenses.

The "Gazette" containing the above-mentioned Ordinances may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

BELGIUM.

International Economic Congress at Mons.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) of 1st April states that an International Economic Congress will be opened at Mons on 24th September next, under the patronage of His Majesty the King of the Belgians. The Congress will comprise six sections, devoted respectively to education, statistics, tariff policy, shipping, the trend of civilisation towards new countries, and the methods and agents of economic expansion in general.

Full particulars may be obtained from the Secretary to the Congress, 8, rue de la Loi, Brussels.

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Miscellaneous.

FRANCE.

Alcohol Tax.

The French "Journal Officiel," dated 29th March, publishes a Decree fixing the rate of the tax on the manufacture of industrial alcohol in France at 1·62 fr. per hectolitre for the year 1905.

Trade in Senegal Gum at Bordeaux.

The following report on the trade in Senegal gum at Bordeaux has been received from H.M. Consul at that port (Mr. R. D. G. Macdonald):—

"Bordeaux is virtually the only port in France for the trade in Senegal gum, the quantity imported into Marseilles being insignificant. The amount imported during the years 1902, 1903, and 1904 was from 18,000 to 20,000 sacks each year, each sack containing 90 kilogs. (198·6 lbs.).

"The gum is sorted and graded in France by hand, women being employed. Its peculiar toughness is said to make it much harder to sort than other gums. There is no special centre or standard for sorting and grading, the classification being made to suit the requirements of each buyer. Three of the best kinds and their sale price at Bordeaux are:—

1st quality,	"Bas Fleuve"	...	55 frs. per 100 kilogs.
2nd ,,	"Galam"	...	50 ,, ,,
3rd ,,	"Sallabreda"	...	42·50 to 50 per 100 kilogs.

Prices have varied about 20 frs. during the last three years. Samples could be obtained at proportional rates varying from 60 to 120 frs. per 100 kilogs.

"Sorting operations cannot be effected in Senegal where there would seem to be neither method nor organisation in the manner of collecting gum, which is done by owners of a few slaves who bring in small supplies from time to time.

"The use of Senegal gum is general in almost all branches of industry, especially in the manufacture of confectionery and for dressing fabrics. . .

"Freights for Senegal gum to Bordeaux vary from 25 frs. (20*s.*) to 35 frs. (28*s.*) per ton.

"An export duty of 1·50 frs. per 100 kilogs., and tug charges of 1 fr. per cent. on the value of the gum, as estimated at the Senegal Customs, are the only dues which the article has to pay before it reaches Bordeaux. The industry is not protected by the French Government. The cost of Senegal gum to the importer at Bordeaux cannot, it is said, be fixed as its collectors are paid in kind and not in cash."

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Miscellaneous.

SPAIN.

Establishment of Bankers' Clearing Houses authorised.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 31st March publishes a Royal Decree authorising the Government to establish bankers' clearing houses in Madrid and Barcelona.

The "Gaceta" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Commercial Mission to South America.

The French Councillor of Foreign Trade at Alicante (M. Joseph Pelu) in a despatch published in the "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce" of 30th March, states that the Federation of Spanish Commercial Travellers, who recently held their first Congress, have decided to send a commercial mission to South America, including, among other members, experts in textile and chemical products. The mission will start from Barcelona in the first fortnight of July with a collection of samples which will be exhibited in the principal centres of Argentina and Uruguay. The aim of the mission is to develop commercial relations between Spain and these two republics, by studying, on the spot, the tastes and preferences of the inhabitants.

Alcohol Trust.

The United States Consul at Barcelona reports the completion of the organisation, under the name of La Sociedad Union Alcoholera Española, of a great alcohol trust in Spain, with headquarters at Madrid, and a capital of 16,000,000 pesetas.

Members bind themselves neither to establish new manufactories nor to deal in alcohol not produced by the company. The society or trust is made up of most of the alcohol distillers of Spain, of the members of the Sociedad General Azucarera (National Sugar Company)—which brings into the trust its manufactories, its molasses or dregs as produced, and also the alcohol which it produces—and of a group of financiers which has subscribed the 4,000,000 shares that form the working capital.

The basis is the molasses contract entered into with the Sociedad General Azucarera, which owns most of the sugar mills in Spain. Besides these, the combine has already acquired the largest and best-situated grain distilleries.

GREECE.

Formation of Alcohol Trust.

In a despatch from the Belgian Legation at Athens, reproduced in the "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) of the 1st April, it is stated that the principal distillery proprietors of Greece have recently formed an alcohol trust, with headquarters at the Piræus. This trust has been formed in view of the lowering of prices caused by competition. Henceforth, prices will be fixed by the trust which will also endeavour to give an impetus to the export of Greek brandies.

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Miscellaneous.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Amended Copyright Law.

Adverting to the notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 25th February, 1904, p. 380, respecting the United States Copyright Amendment Bill, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of the Act as passed by Congress on the 3rd March last. This Act differs from the Bill of last year in regard to the requirements as to protection, and the limitation as to the application of the Act as regards foreign countries, and other matters.

The full text of the Act may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

NICARAGUA.

New Consular Law.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office, from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Managua (Mr. H. W. B. Harrison, C.M.G.), forwarding copy and translation of the new Nicaraguan Consular Law of the 15th October, 1904, which came into force at the beginning of the present year.

By Article 27, the fees chargeable for the consular visa on *invoices* are as follows:—

		Dollars.
If the value does not exceed 100 dollars	...	2·50
" " " 200 "	...	3·00
" " " 500 "	...	5·00
" " " 1,000 "	...	10·00

If exceeding 1,000 dollars, in addition to the above fee, ¼ per cent. on the excess.

The fee for consular visa on *bills of lading* is 2 dollars, whatever the value of the invoice.

By Article 31, the value of the Nicaraguan dollar, for purposes of this law, is taken as equivalent to 4*s*.

Article 32 provides that the authorities of the Custom-houses shall collect and forward to the Minister of Finance, in order that they may be duly entered in the accounts of the Consuls, any fees that should have been received for the issuing or visaing of documents relative to a vessel or its cargo, that may be presented to them, and in which the due formalities have not been complied with. At the same time they shall collect, as a fine, and on behalf ot the Treasury, a further sum equal to the amount of such fees as should have been paid in at the Consulate.

The full text of the Law, together with the translation, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 13 Weeks ended 30th March, 1905.

—	Week ended 30th Mar., 1905.	13 Weeks ended 30th Mar., 1905.	Week ended 30th Mar., 1905.	13 Weeks ended 30th Mar., 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	33,445	951,029†	5,302	103,024†
Brazilian	882	12,377†	—	328
East Indian	250	14,786†	54	4,683
Egyptian	15,350	163,159†	3,830	35,321
Miscellaneous	1,368*	20,250†‡	50	716§
Total	51,295	1,161,601	9,236	144,072

* Including 370 bales British West Indian and 53 bales British West African.
† Corrected figures.
‡ Including 644 bales British West African and 923 bales British West Indian.
§ Including 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 1st April, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 1st April, 1905	30	9	25	1	16	11
Corresponding week in—						
1898	35	2	27	0	17	11
1899	24	7	25	1	16	11
1900	25	10	24	10	17	2
1901	26	3	25	3	18	0
1902	27	3	26	5	20	6
1903	25	3	22	6	17	0
1904	27	11	22	10	16	6

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 1st April, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 1st April, 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	6,616	*11,025*
Sheep and lambs	"	2,787	*11,542*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	127	*122*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	88,378	*80,969*
Mutton	"	65,193	*52,432*
Pork	"	8,390	*11,714*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	77,245	*111,039*
Beef	"	1,376	*1,568*
Hams	"	11,061	*16,714*
Pork	"	2,999	*4,171*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	13,022	*16,374*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	16,983	*14,926*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	69,945	*86,662*
Margarine	"	22,015	*20,756*
Cheese	"	84,649	*44,010*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	86	*109*
" condensed	"	17,559	*15,304*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	29	—
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	351,139	*273,237*
Poultry	Value £	14,245	*9,008*
Game	"	1,040	*3,965*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	8,206	*2,587*
Lard	"	28,252	*24,135*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	2,584,500	*1,124,700*
Wheat meal and flour	"	255,800	*342,000*
Barley	"	434,700	*549,900*
Oats	"	230,600	*383,300*
Peas	"	25,730	*29,170*
Beans	"	73,180	*32,780*
Maize or Indian corn	"	768,800	*663,000*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	95,186	*55,293*
Apricots and peaches	"	—	*21*
Bananas	Bunches.	104,049	*62,594*
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	438	*523*
Lemons	"	22,870	*14,633*
Oranges	"	247,293	*117,641*
Pears	"	508	*62*
Plums	"	55	*48*
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	2,429	*1,190*
Hay...	Tons.	1,661	*2,494*
Straw	"	2,3[illegible]0	*1,556*
Moss Litter*	"	1,754	—
Hops	Cwts.	357	*1,219*
Locust Beans	"	56,301	*2,660*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	192,210	*140,037*
Potatoes	Cwts.	2[illegible],218	*290,273*
Tomatoes	"	40,998	*26,745*
Unenumerated	Value £	12,253	*13,418*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	553	*1,104*
Preserved by canning...	"	4,574	*4,506*

* Not shown in 1904.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of February, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* 1*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the March issue:—State of the Labour Market in February; Fatal Industrial Accidents in 1904; Spindles and Looms in Woollen and Worsted Factories; Relief of the Unemployed.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual and Miscellaneous Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,331. Trade of Amsterdam for 1904.

Trade, on the whole, not unsatisfactory.

Remarks on principal imports: coffee, tobacco, sugar, &c.

Large increase in imports of British coal.

Decrease in export of butter to the United Kingdom.

No. 3,332. Trade of Mexico for 1903.

Marked improvement in trade in spite of depreciation in silver.

Increase in value of imports of raw cotton, cottons, linens and woollens, and articles of iron and steel.

Noticeable advance in Belgium's share of import trade.

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Government Publications.

Industrial openings. Means of pushing trade.

Analysis of export trade.

Cultivation of tobacco.

Railway extension.

Returns of shipping and tables of principal articles of import and export.

MISCELLANEOUS.

No. 632. Italian Silk Trade and Yield of Cocoons in 1904.

Disastrous condition of Italian silk market in 1904; causes of crisis.

Amount of silkworms' eggs placed under incubation in 1904 compared with previous years.

Table showing the yield of cocoons, by districts, during the years 1897–1904.

Total yield in silk for 1904; prices.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Final report of the Royal Commission on Coal Supplies.

Part II. (*Cd.* 2,354). *Price* 1*s.* 10*d.*—This publication contains the report of Sir William T. Lewis on the available coal resources of District A (South Wales, Monmouthshire, Forest of Dean, Bristol and Somersetshire).

Part III. (*Cd.* 2,355). *Price* 1*s.* 1*d.*—Report of Professor Lapworth and Mr. A. Sopwith on the available coal resources of District B (Staffordshire, Warwickshire, Leicestershire, Shropshire, and a small portion of South Derbyshire).

Part IV. (*Cd.* 2,356). *Price* 3*d.*—Report of Prof. Edward Hull, Sir G. J. Armytage and Mr. A. Strahan on the available coal resources of District C (North Wales, Lancashire and Cheshire).

Part V. (*Cd.* 2,357). *Price* 1*s.* 1*d.*—Report of Mr. A. Currer Briggs on the available coal resources of District D (Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire).

Part VI. (*Cd.* 2,358). *Price* 5*d.*—Report of Sir Lindsay Wood on the available coal resources of District E (Northumberland, Durham and Cumberland).

Part VIII. (*Cd.* 2,360). *Price* 1*d.*—Report of Professor Edward Hull on the available coal resources of District G (Ireland).

Part IX. (*Cd.* 2,361). *Price* 2*s.*—Report of the Geological Committee upon the resources of the concealed and unproved coal-fields of the United Kingdom.

Part XI. (*Cd.* 2,363). *Price* 2*s.* 9*d.*—This publication contains a series of appendices, including *inter alia* the following:—Report as to the extent and effect of State intervention in French collieries; Reports and memoranda by H.M. Consul-General at Dusseldorf; Report on Colonial and foreign coal resources; Detailed statistics (with diagrams) are also appended showing the output, imports and exports of coal of the United Kingdom, the principal British Colonies and possessions, and the principal foreign countries.

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Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—	
	Austria-Hungary:	
3328	Trieste, 1904	1½*d.*
	Belgium:	
3327	Antwerp—Shipping ...1904	7½*d.*
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1	Accession of Cuba to arrangements respecting false indications of origin on goods and the International Registration of Trade Marks	½*d.*

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1905, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

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—	Cyprus	2½*d.*
444	Basutoland...	3*d.*
445	Leeward Islands	2½*d.*

Miscellaneous.

No.	Place.	Price.
29	Ceylon. Reports on the results of the Mineral Survey in 1903–4	2½*d.*

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Among the branches of work now carried on by the Imperial Institute at South Kensington are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which are exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Imperial Institute Bulletin," issued quarterly, contains information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

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SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

To Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

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Admiralty Charts—
Potter, J. D., 145, Minories..

Agents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Agricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. ...
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Air Compressors—
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Ale, Beer, and Stout Merchants—
Dankes & Co., Strand, London

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Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

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Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Anti-friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E.

Antiquities in Sundials—
Barker, F., & Son, 12, Clerkenwell Road, London, E.C....

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife Bros. & Lilley, 313, Broad Street, Birmingham

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Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Barrels, Casks, Shooks, &c.—
Rankin, G. & J., Ltd., 2/4, Houlgrove St., Liverpool...

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Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton ... ...

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Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham... ...
Evered & Co., London and Birmingham ... ...
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Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London ...

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMEN APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

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Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, R., & Co., London, S.E.

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 58, City Road, E.C.... ... ...

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. ... ...

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Brassfounders—
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Brass Plate Manufacturers—
Drew & Co., Ltd., 245 & 246 High Holborn ... ...

Brass Scrap Merchants—
Adams, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Bread & Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons London, E.C. ... ...

Brick & Tile Manufacturers—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles)
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Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...
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The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan
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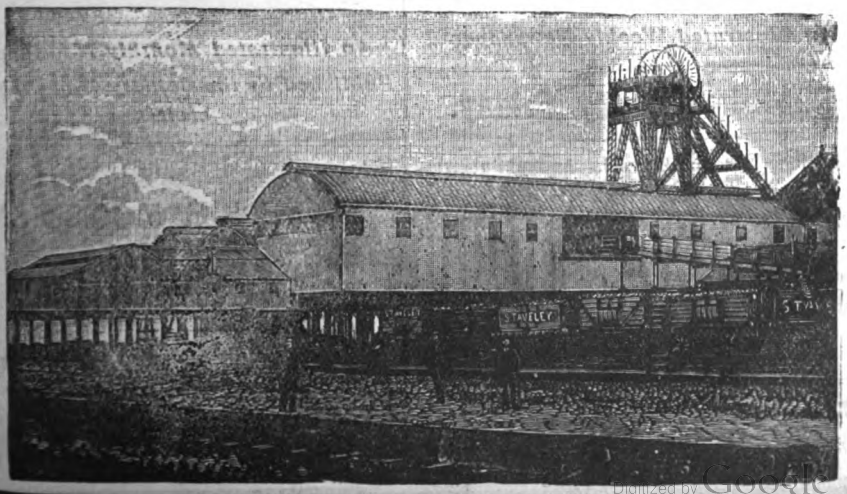

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Chilled Shot—
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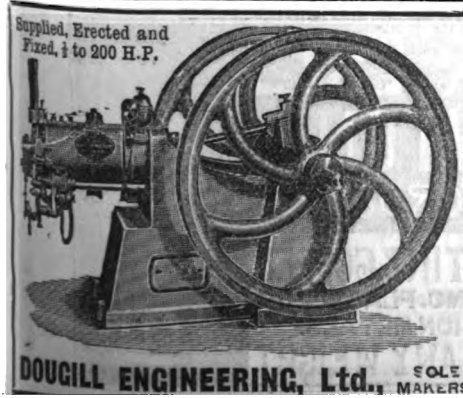

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Manchester Warehousemen—
Joseph, M., & Co., 36, Aldgate High Street, London, E. ...

Manures (Chemical)—
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Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...
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Marble and Granite Merchant and Importer—
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Mill Engineers—
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Mineral Waters—
Idris & Co., Ltd., London, N.W. ... ...

Mining Lamps (all classes)—
Cooke, Joseph, & Son (Belmont Passage), 203, Lawley Street, Birmingham ... ...

Mortar and Pestle Manfrs.—
Bullers, Ltd., London E.C....

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Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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Plumbago—
Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Poles, Telegraph—
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Porcelain Paint—
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Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

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Iles, Robert, Ltd., Walham Green, London, S.W. ... 2

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Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London E.C. (Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil)... ...

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MacSimon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..
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Quilts, Covers, Toiletings, &c.—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

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Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

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Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham ... ...

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Safe Manufacturers—
Hobbs, Hart, & Co., Ltd., London, N. 6
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Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street. S.E. ... ...

Sheep Deep (Nicotine)—
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Sheep Dip Manufacturers—
Cooper, Wm., & Nephews, Berkhamsted, Makers of the Original Powder Dip...

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Cooper. Wm., & Nephews, 142, Illinois Street, Chicago, and Berkhamsted, England

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Tennant, Charles, & Co., Glasgow ... ...

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Ash, Joseph, & Son, Birmingham ... ...

Tar and Rosin Distillers—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds ...
Robinson, E., & Co., Ltd., City Works, Sheffield ...

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Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

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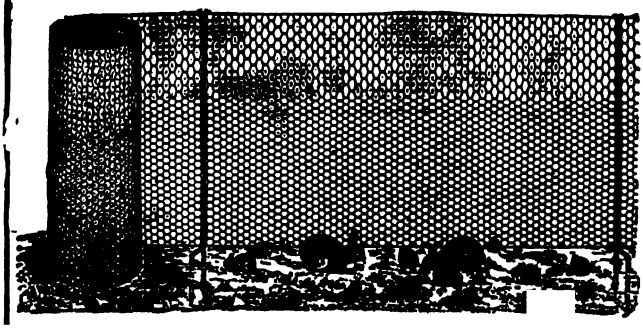

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Tiles, Tessellated and Glazed—
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Denny, Mott & Dickson, Ltd., 165, Fenchurch Street, London, E.C... ...
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Platt, Jas., & Co., 77, St. Martin's Lane, W.C.... ...

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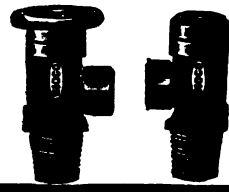

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AREA, etc.—The present BUTE DOCKS are 111 acres in extent, and vessels loading up to 13,000 tons regularly trade there. The NEW SOUTH DOCK, which is rapidly approaching completion, will have a water area of 50 acres. It is 2,450 feet in length, 800 feet in breadth, and 50 feet in depth from the coping; and will be capable of accommodating the LARGEST VESSELS AFLOAT. The Sea Lock will be 850 FEET IN LENGTH, and 90 FEET IN BREADTH, with a depth of water over the cill of 42 FEET at ordinary spring tides, and 32 FEET at ordinary neap tides. Two Large Graving Docks, up to 850 FEET IN LENGTH, and entered from THIS DOCK, are about to be constructed.

MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES.—The Bute Docks are equipped with the most IMPROVED Appliances for the discharging and loading of vessels with dispatch; the greater portion being worked by HYDRAULIC PRESSURE. There is an ample equipment of Cranes of various power up to 70 TONS, as well as Grain Elevators, &c., &c.

Special attention may be drawn to the NEW 70-TON CRANE in the ROATH DOCK, thus enabling THE CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY to ship or unship THE HEAVIEST WEIGHTS.

COAL SHIPPING FACILITIES.—Coal is being shipped at these Docks by the ordinary Fixed, as well as Moveable Staiths; as also by the LEWIS-HUNTER PATENT COALING CRANES. The Cardiff Railway Company have the EXCLUSIVE use in the Bristol Channel of the LEWIS-HUNTER Coaling Cranes, which have proved by far the most satisfactory appliances for shipping Welsh Coal, with dispatch and the Least Possible Breakage. Colliery screened coal shipped by these cranes being equal to double screened coal shipped by ordinary Staiths, and thereby ensuring to the purchaser an INCREASED VALUE OF AT LEAST ONE SHILLING per ton over that of coal put on board by shipping appliances at other Docks, besides ensuring great SAVING IN BREAKAGE and uniformity of distribution throughout the cargo of any small coal that might exist; thus minimising any risk of spontaneous ignition from small coal in cargoes bound for distant ports. THREE OR MORE CRANES can be worked simultaneously into one vessel, and as much as 330 TONS have been shipped by one crane in an hour, and 4,773 TONS have been shipped into a vessel in 10 HOURS. Shippers attach so much importance to the advantages of these Cranes that they frequently elect to wait some time for a CRANE BERTH rather than have their coal shipped by the usual staiths.

The NEW SOUTH DOCK will be entirely equipped with these COALING CRANES, in deference to the wishes of so many shippers and buyers of CARDIFF COAL.

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RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION.—CARDIFF is the NATURAL PORT for BIRMINGHAM and the MIDLAND DISTRICT, as the London & North Western, Midland, and Great Western Railway Companies have direct communication from the Ship's Side.

DOCK CHARGES.—These are much below the average of our Great Ports. Vessels can generally procure an outward cargo to any PORT in the WORLD, thus giving the Bute Docks an advantage for Imports, as vessels do not require to change Ports.

TRADE.—The BUTE DOCKS were opened in the year 1839, and the IMPORTS and EXPORTS in 1902 were as follows:—Imports, 2,117,510 TONS; Exports, 7,684,087 TONS; Total, 9,801,597 TONS.

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STATUS OF CARDIFF.—CARDIFF now occupies the position of being the FIRST PORT in the UNITED KINGDOM for shipping cleared to FOREIGN COUNTRIES and BRITISH POSSESSIONS and the PREMIER PORT in the WORLD for the SHIPMENT OF COAL.

NOTE.—The Bute Docks are the only Docks situated in the Town of Cardiff. Vessels using the Bute Docks thereby save their owners and Captains from loss of time in making journeys between the Vessels and the Merchants' and Brokers' Offices, Banks, Custom House, Post Office, &c., all of which Offices are adjacent to the Bute Docks.

The fullest information on all matters will be readily granted on application to the

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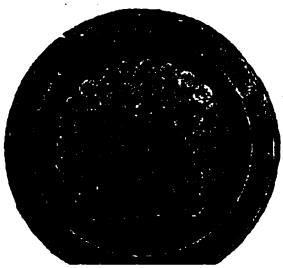

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DUBLIN.—April 19th.—Iron and steel stores, &c., for the Dublin, Wicklow & Wexford Railway Company. The Secretary, Westland Row, Dublin. (Fee, 6d. each.)

EGREMONT (CHESHIRE).—April 20th.—Iron and steel stores, for the Wallasey Urban District Council. The Gas and Water Engineer's Office, Dock Road, Seacombe.

EGREMONT (CHESHIRE).—April 20th.—Wrought-iron railings and hurdles, for the Urban District Council. Mr. H. W. Cook, Public Offices, Egremont.

DORSET.—April 19th,—Fuel, &c., for the Wool Camp, Dorset. The Officer Commanding, Army Service Corps, Portsmouth Defences.

EGREMONT (CHESHIRE).—April 20th.—5,000 tons of round cannel, and 29,000 tons of screened gas coal, for the Wallasey Urban District Council Gas and Water Department. The Engineer, Mr. J. H. Crowther, Dock Road, Seacombe.

GLASGOW.—April 18th.—Dross and triping, for the Corporation. Mr. W. C. Menzies, 22, King Street, Glasgow.

HASTINGS.—April 17th.—520 tons of coke, for the Corporation. The Borough Engineer, Town Hall, Hastings.

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CONTRACTS.

Wallasey Urban District Council.
Gas and Water Department.
Contracts for Stores.

The Wallasey Urban District Council are prepared to receive tenders to supply, for a period of twelve months from the 30th of June next, the following amongst other articles, being the principal stores required for use at their Gas and Water Works, viz.:—

Wrought Iron Tube; Stop Cocks and Main Taps; Lead Pipe, &c.; Copper Tube, Sheets, &c.; Wrought Iron Bars and Steel Plates; Cast Iron Main Pipes; Oils and Paints; Valves; Gas and Water Meters; Retorts and Firebricks.

Further particulars, with form of tender, may be had, and samples inspected, on application at the Gas and Water Engineer's Office, Dock Road, Seacombe.

Sealed tenders, which must be on the printed form, endorsed "Tender for Gas and Water Stores," to be addressed to me and delivered (per Post) at my office as below, not later than the morning of Thursday, the 20th April, 1905.

The Contractors will be required to enter into a bond, with approved sureties, for the due performance of their respective Contracts.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any offer.

(By order)
R. W. COOK,
Clerk.

Public Offices,
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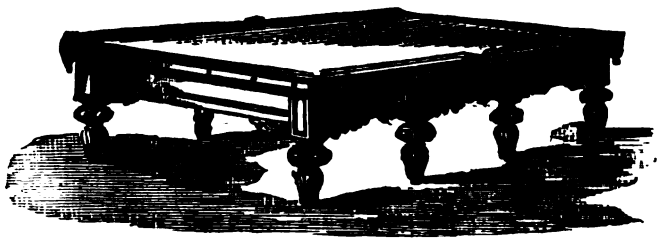

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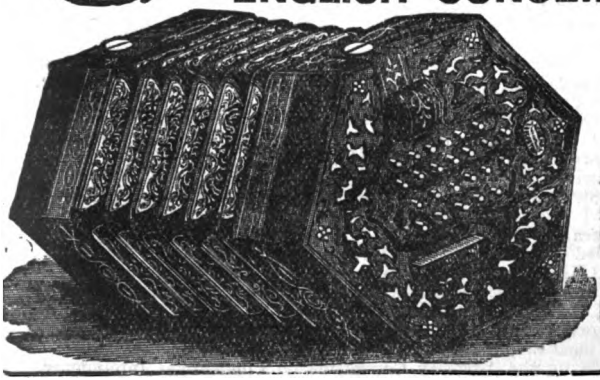

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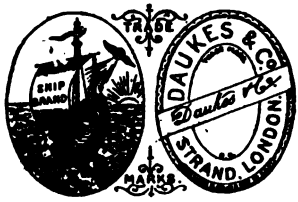

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APRIL 13TH, 1905.

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLIX.] April 13, 1905. [No. 437.

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 93.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where there are at present on view, among other exhibits, samples of tobacco grown in Jamaica, and samples of cotton grown within the Empire, viz., eleven received from the British Cotton Growing Association, three from the West India Committee, and eleven from the Imperial Institute.

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 94.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of—

Deck Spans. 16 deck spans (100 feet in the clear) as per specification to be seen at the Company's Offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

The spans are urgently required, and early delivery is therefore essential.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Deck Spans," not later than noon on Wednesday, the 19th April.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

For each specification, a fee of one guinea is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

Railway Stores.

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of the following stores, namely:—Locks, &c.; Pig-iron; fire bricks and clay; railway tickets, &c., Sheffield tools, &c.; Portland cement; lamps and lamp fittings; wrought iron hinges; wrought iron; lamp wicks; steel tyres; bellows and forges,

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, E.C., on payment of the fee for the specification, which payment will not be returned.

Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Locks, &c.," or, as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 4th May.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Canadian Enquiries.—A firm of manufacturers' agents in Vancouver are willing to represent United Kingdom manufacturers of merino underwear, cashmere hose and half-hose, laces (Valenciennes and Torchon preferred), umbrellas, linens, woollens, &c. United Kingdom references.

A Montreal firm are prepared to represent a United Kingdom manufacturer of varnishes, paints and colours.

A Canadian company working large deposits of gypsum suitable for the production of cement and as a fertiliser wish to hear from United Kingdom importers prepared to contract for large quantities of gypsum.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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Openings for British Trade.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Post and Telegraph Stores and Material.

The "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" of 4th March contains a notice to the effect that tenders will be received at the Office of the Acting Deputy Postmaster-General, Adelaide, up to noon on Wednesday, 7th June, 1905, for the supply, in accordance with samples and specifications, of the undermentioned post and telegraph stores and material, viz.:—

200 mail bags, canvas, 58 in. by 35 in.; 200 ditto 48 in. by 29 in.; 200 ditto 48 in. by 24 in.; 200 ditto 36 in. by 24 in.; 150 ditto 24 in. by 16 in.; 300 mail bags, basil, made of 4 skins; 200 ditto made of 3 skins; 200 ditto made of 2 skins; 100 ditto made of 1 skin; 6,000 lbs. medium twine; 1,000 lbs. heavy twine; 6 tons sulphate of magnesia; 3 tons sal-ammoniac; 5,000 shackle-heads; 5,000 battery corks and tubes; 14,000 battery zincs; 9,000 battery leads; 2,000 battery binding screws; 10 miles of No. 16 tinned copper insulated wire; 10 miles of No. 18 tinned copper insulated wire; 4 miles of No. 20 tinned copper insulated wire; 600 yards of 12 pair submarine cable.

The sulphate of magnesia, sal-ammoniac, insulated wire, shackle-heads, and submarine cable must be delivered within three (3) months from the date of notice of acceptance of tender; the balance of the material to be delivered as follows:—One quarter of the total quantity in July, 1905; one-quarter in October, 1905; one-quarter in January, 1906; and one-quarter in April, 1906.

Tenders may be sent in for the whole or any portion of the material required, and must include Customs duty, if any.

Tenders sent through the post should be registered.

Tenderers must state the country in which the articles tendered for have been made or produced, and, in the case of manufactured articles, where the material has been made or produced.

Tenders must be on the proper forms and accompanied by a deposit of 5 per cent., in accordance with clause 5 of the General Conditions.

Specifications and samples can be seen, and forms of tender obtained, at the General Post Offices, Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney, and Brisbane.

For material, &c., manufactured in Australia, white labour only must be employed, and the rate of wages paid and the working conditions shall be those recognised in the locality in which the work is performed.

Neither the lowest nor any tender will necessarily be accepted.

CAPE COLONY.

Motor Coaches for Railways.

A Capetown despatch published in the "Natal Mercury" states that the Cape Railways Department are making a new departure by giving orders for three motor coaches for use on the railways. Two of

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Openings for British Trade.

the three are to be propelled by petrol motors of 25 horse-power. They will have accommodation for seven first-class, four third-class passengers, and a ton of luggage. These cars are to be used on branch lines. It is proposed to order three more cars of 2-feet gauge.

CYPRUS.

Co-operative Soap Factory.

Concerning the prospects of a soap-making industry in Cyprus, the "Cyprus Journal" remarks that the island produces several wild plants which yield essential oils of high value, and, with cultivation, could grow a much larger number and variety of such plants. The oils obtained are mainly used in perfumery and soap-making. A considerable quantity of origanum oil was distilled last year and in previous years, under contract with the Agricultural Department, from the wild origanum or red thyme plant which grows freely in the forests of the Island. The small soap factory at Limassol does not make use of any essential oils, and prepares only a soap for household purposes. The olive oil used is imported. The reason for this is that the oil required in soap making is obtained from the residue which remains after the oil has been extracted from the olives. The "Journal" says:—"No olive oil producer in Cyprus possesses the necessary plant for treating this residue, and a considerable profit which might otherwise be made by such treatment is therefore lost. The cost of the needful machinery is rather heavy, but it is worth the consideration of olive tree owners whether it would not pay them to establish a soap factory in which they could utilise their own products.

"This is just one of those industries which might well be worked by co-operative methods."

In the opinion of the "Cyprus Journal" a co-operative soap factory, distilling essential oils from Island grown plants, and utilising the olive oil produced from the trees belonging to the co-operators themselves should have a good prospect of success. The co-operators would undertake to dispose of their olives to the factory, and in addition to the payment they would receive for their produce, and a fixed rate of interest upon the money they might provide for the purchase of the necessary machinery, any profits would be annually divisible among them *pro rata*, according to the value of their respective dealings with the factory.

EGYPT.

White Clothing, &c.

With reference to the notice published on pp. 3-4 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 6th April, respecting a call for tenders for the supply of articles of white clothing, &c., required during 1905-6 by the Egyptian Police Administration, the Commercial Intelligence

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Openings for British Trade.

Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Ministry of the Interior at Cairo copies of the conditions of contract, specifications for textile tests and lists of the articles required.

Copies of these documents may be obtained by intending tenderers on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Tenders will be received up to noon on the 15th May, 1905.

NORWAY.

Rails, Fishplates, &c.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul-General at Christiania (Viscount Melville) that tenders will be received up to the 5th May next for the supply to the Norwegian State Railways of 1,300 tons of rails, fishplates, and steel pieces. Sealed tenders should be addressed "Styrelsens Expeditions-kontor, Statsbanerne, Christiania." Full particulars as to this contract may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.). They include the following documents:—Specification (in English); general rules (in Norwegian) applicable to all tenders for the Norwegian State Railways; special conditions of tender (in Norwegian); and drawings of rails.

H.M. Consul-General directs particular attention to section 16 of the general rules, in which it is laid down that tenders from persons who do not reside in Norway will only be received through someone resident in the country. British firms must therefore name a person resident in Norway to deal with the authorities on their behalf.

Apart from the usual Customs duties a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. is given to Norwegian manufacturers.

Sweet Oil.

H.M. Consul-General also notifies that the Norwegian Naval Authorities invite tenders for about 30,000 kilogs. of best quality sweet oil ("Bomolie") containing not more than eight per cent. of acid. Messina oil would be preferred.

The oil is to be delivered, as soon as possible, free at Karljohansvoern (Horten). The date of delivery must be stated in the tender.

British firms wishing to tender should do so through agents resident in Norway, and the tenders, addressed to "Marinens Intendantur, Horten," must be received not later than one p.m. on 2nd May, 1905.

In the case of contracts for the Norwegian State Departments, there is a regulation to the effect that, apart from the usual Customs duties, a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. is given to Norwegian manufacturers.

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Openings for British Trade.

GERMANY.

Proposed Electrification of Main Lines in Bavaria.

"La Revue Minéralurgique" (Paris) states that the Bavarian Minister of Ways of Communication is considering a project for instituting electric traction on the main lines of Bavaria. It is proposed to utilise for this purpose the vast amount of water power which exists in the Bavarian Alps. It is said that, among others, the line from Munich to Lindau (a distance of 220 kilometres) will be transformed.

BELGIUM.

Railway Trucks; Cranes.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) of 8th April publishes a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened at 1 p.m. on 26th April at the "Bourse de Commerce," Brussels, for the supply of—(1) 87 small trucks, each fitted with a brake, for the conveyance of railway construction materials; and (2) two moveable cranes, with a lifting capacity of 4,000 kilogs.

Locomotive Weighbridge.

The same issue of the "Bulletin" states that tenders are invited for the supply of a weighbridge for locomotives. The date of adjudication is not yet fixed. A deposit of 1,000 francs (about 40*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

Canal Lock Construction.

The "Bulletin" further announces that the adjudication will shortly take place of tenders for the construction of six locks on the Charleroi-Brussels Canal. The cost of these works is estimated at 1,724,174 francs (about 68,967*l*). A deposit of 86,000 francs (about 3,440*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

All specifications, plans, &c., can be obtained at the Bureau des Adjudications, Musée Commercial, Rue des Augustins, Brussels, and that office will forward all necessary specifications and plans to any address, on receipt of an application for same enclosing a remittance for cost and postage.

SWITZERLAND.

Hydro-electric Plant.

According to "La Revue Minéralurgique" the number of water power installations for the production of electric power in Switzerland is increasing considerably. A gigantic installation of this nature is about to be erected in the Canton of Schwytz. It is proposed to dam the river Sihl, thus forming an artificial lake in a valley. The superficial area of the lake will be 11·6 kilom., with a capacity of 96,500,000 cubic metres of water. The dam will be 26 metres high and nearly 100 metres long. The horse-power produced will be 28,000 for 24 hours or 60,000 for 11 hours. An agreement as

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to this undertaking has been signed on behalf of the Cantons of Schwytz and Zurich, and it is hoped that the works will begin during the spring.

PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

Railway Material: Port Works.

With reference to the notice on p. 584 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 30th March, respecting a loan for the construction of the Swaziland railway and for the carrying out of port improvements at Lourenço Marques, attention is called to the fact that the "Diario do Governo" of 28th March publishes a notification of the royal approval of the project for the construction of the above-mentioned railway; and that the "Diario" of 29th March contains a Decree establishing a special Commission, under the presidency of the Governor-General of Moçambique, for the effective supervision of both these works.

The "Diarios" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

SPAIN.

Electric Lighting.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 3rd April contains a notice inviting tenders for the electric lighting of Baeza for a period of ten years, commencing 4th August, 1905. 3,250 candle-power will be required annually, distributed among lamps of 10, 17, 25 and 32 candle-power. The annual payment to the concessionnaire will be 8,500 pesetas (about 255*l.*) Tenders will be opened at the "Casas Consistoriales," Baez, 30 days after the publication of the notice in the "Gaceta." A deposit of 425 pesetas (about 12*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

Steam Dredger.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 5th April contains a notice calling for tenders, which will be opened at noon on the 10th July, at the offices of the Secretary to the Port Works Board, Santander, for the provision of a steam dredger, at the maximum cost of 283,672 pesetas (about 8,506*l.*). A deposit of 3,000 pesetas (about 89*l.*) is required to qualify any tender,

Tramway Plant.

With reference to the notice on p. 580 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 29th December as to tenders for a tramway concession (animal traction) in Gijon, on terms more favourable than those offered by the Gijon Tramways Company, it is noted that the "Gaceta de Madrid" of 5th April publishes a notice to the effect that, no such tenders having been received, the concession has been granted to that Company.

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Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

Electric Tramway Concession.

The same issue of the "Gaceta" contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened at noon on the 26th April, in the Directorate-General of Public Works, Madrid, for the concession of an electric tramway in that city. An application for this concession has already been made by the Madrid Eastern Tramway Company, who, at the same rates, will enjoy certain preferential rights over other tenderers. The competition will turn, in the first place, on the reduction of the tariffs proposed, and if two or more identical propositions are made, a further competition will take place verbally as to any reduction of the period (60 years) of the concession tenderers may be prepared to accept.

A deposit of 968 pesetas (about 29*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

Sulphuric Acid: Coal.

The "Gaceta" of 7th April contains a Royal Order authorising the Granada Powder Factory to purchase 10 metric tons of sulphuric acid, 200 tons of anthracite and 400 tons of coal. This Order is consequent on the fact that the call for tenders for these goods (noted on p. 152 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 26th January) failed to produce any result; no higher prices, however, are now authorised than those named as the upset rates in the former notice.

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

N.B.—It is notified from H.M. Embassy at Madrid that a foreigner, when entering into contracts for the performance of public works in Spain, must renounce by public act all rights to which he might be entitled by virtue of the law of his own country in so far as his contract is concerned, and accept any administrative decisions that may be issued respecting questions arising from that contract.

In entering into such contracts a local agent is a practical necessity.

ITALY.

Water Power Plant.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) of 6th April, states that the Prefect of Aquila has granted Signor Picconi Massimo, of Nicola, an appropriation of water from the river Aterno, for the production of power for lighting and industrial purposes, to be utilised in various communes in the Subequana Valley. The duration of the concession is fixed at 30 years.

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ITALY—*continued.*

Electric Tramway Plant.

In the same issue of the "Bollettino" it is stated that the Municipality of Pallanza have decided on the construction of an electric tramway from that city to Fondotore, in order to connect Pallanza and the valley of Ticino with the Simplon line.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) of 12th April states that the adjudication will shortly take place, at the Municipal Offices, Görz, of tenders for the construction of an electric tramway 5½ kilometres in length. The cost of the work is estimated at 364,000 crowns (about 15,166*l.*).

ROUMANIA.

Haversacks: Spurs: Musical Instruments: Linen: Mattress Covers.

The "Bulletin Commercial" (Brussels) of 8th April, states that tenders are invited by the Roumanian Minister of War for the supply of:—(1) 5,000 linen haversacks, 4,103 goat hair haversacks, 3,000 cavalry spurs, 1,887 artillery spurs, and various musical instruments; (2) 87,000 metres of lining, 87,000 metres of mattress covers, 122,000 metres of linen for sheets, and 110,000 metres of linen for blouses.

Tenders for (1) will be opened on the 25th April, and for (2) on the 7th May, at the Ministry of War, Bucharest.

Local representation would be necessary.

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Mining Machinery.

The "Levant Herald" publishes particulars of a concession granted to an English merchant, Mr. Gavin Gilchrist, for 99 years for mining bitumen and asphalt near the villages of Harba and Soular, sandjak of Lattakia, vilayet of Beirut. The area to be mined amounts to about 640 acres.

Machinery and tools used in the preliminary work, which are of foreign importation (from without the Turkish Empire), will, in the first instance, be exempted from import duty.

MONTENEGRO.

Port Works: Railway Construction.

The "Journal de St. Pétersbourg" states that the Commercial Bank of Milan has expressed its willingness to advance a loan of 3,200,000 lire (about 128,000*l.*) to the Government of Montenegro, for the construction of a port at Antivari and the laying down of a narrow gauge railway between that town and Virpazar on Lake Scutari. The execution of these works will be put in hand without delay, and may possibly be completed in two years.

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Openings for British Trade.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Indelible Pencils.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received a communication from H.M. Consul at Chicago (Mr. A. Finn) reporting that an enquiry has been made at his Consulate for the names of British firms wishing to export indelible pencils to the United States of America where the enquirer has a customer wanting a large quantity.

Communications should be addressed to H.M. Consul, Chicago.

MEXICO.

Vehicles at Veracruz.

The United States Consul at Veracruz reports that the Council of that city, with the approval of the State Government, have recently passed an Ordinance heavily taxing vehicles in use there, principally carts, wagons, and trucks. Taxes of 15 dols. on four-wheeled vehicles, 12 dols. on two-wheelers, and 6 dols. on light carts are to be paid in advance every two months. Similar vehicles, with bodies resting upon springs, are to be taxed one-half the amounts mentioned. Push carts are exempted.

It is evidently the intention of the city government, remarks the Consul, to force out of service all the antiquated, heavy, and ungainly vehicles in use at present, and to compel the adoption of a lighter or modern conveyance, in view of the fact that the city is to be repaved, probably with asphalt.

The Consul considers this an opportunity not to be neglected by manufacturers. As the Ordinance also designates the width of the tyres and running gear to be used, it will be necessary for manufacturers to inform themselves upon this point, and the Consul suggests that they place themselves in communication with one of the importing hardware houses in Veracruz, who might accept an agency, or afford the manufacturer an opportunity to exhibit samples that would serve to show the people what is to be had in the way of carts, wagons, and trucks.

ARGENTINA.

Apparatus for Physical Training.

The "Boletin Oficial" of Argentina of 8th March publishes a Decree authorising Dr. Juan G. Beltrán to expend 21,958 pesos, national currency (about 1,925*l.*) on the purchase in Europe of apparatus for physical training for use in the national colleges and normal schools of the Republic.

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BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Cape Colony.—The following report on the state of trade in Cape Colony has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from their correspondent at Port Elizabeth (Mr. J. S. Neave):—

"There were great hopes that the New Year would see considerable improvement in business, but here, up to the third month of the year, business has been if anything duller than ever, and altogether stagnation more acute.

"So far as the import and export tonnage of this Port are concerned, it would appear, that while a huge drop has taken place from the activity of the last few years, yet we are well in advance of the pre-war period.

"I know of no particular feature in trade to remark upon, with the exception of the very considerable advance during the last three months in the price of sugar, consequent on shortage of crops and the continued advances in price of beet and cane sugars at ports of shipment. Stocks of merchandise throughout the Colony are now working down. These, as everybody knows, have been far in excess of requirements, owing to the enormous quantities of goods rushed into the country during the inflated period immediately following the ending of the war, as also the immense surplus Imperial supplies, which were thrown upon the local markets.

"We are now gradually recovering from this state of things, and though it may be slow, may reasonably look forward to improved demand for all classes of goods, where hitherto the above causes have either checked or altogether stopped demand.

"Money is certainly easier than it was, and this is a very important factor in making business more workable."

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN MARCH, 1905.*

I.—GENERAL.

The trade returns for March, 1905, when compared with those for the corresponding month of 1904, show increases in the value of the **Imports** into the United Kingdom, in the value of the **Exports** of British produce, and also of the **Exports** of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The value of the **Imports** in March, 1905, was 48,983,312*l.*, an increase of 677,427*l.*, or 1·4 per cent., as compared with March, 1904, whilst the total **Exports** amounted to 34,883,032*l.*, or an increase of 7,581,518*l.* The **Exports** of British produce alone show an increase of 6,099,689*l.*, or 25·1 per cent., as compared with March, 1904, whilst there is an increase of 1,481,829*l.*, or 24·9 per cent., in the **Exports** of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

II.—IMPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** for March, 1905, as compared with the corresponding month of 1904 and 1903, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

* Reference should be made to the article on "Changes in the Monthly Trade Accounts for 1905," published at pp. 444-6 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th March, for information as to the changes which have been made in these accounts.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in March, 1905.

Imports from Foreign Countries and British Possessions.*

—	Month ended 31st March. 1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	5,475,205	6,352,359	6,846,996	+ 494,637	+ 1,371,791
B. Meat, including animals for food.	3,863,890	4,245,474	4,007,559	— 237,915	+ 143,669
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable	4,992,082	5,558,535	5,033,132	— 525,403	+ 41,050
2. Dutiable	3,935,641	3,982,527	3,847,220	— 135,307	— 88,421
D. Tobacco	310,775	381,075	303,955	— 77,120	— 6,820
Total, Class I. ... £	18,577,593	20,519,970	20,038,862	— 481,108	+ 1,461,269
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel ..	524	198	166	— 32	— 358
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel ...	433,943	409,886	434,314	+ 24,428	+ 371
C. Other metallic ores...	493,621	559,647	634,174	+ 74,527	+ 140,553
D. Wood and timber	958,356	1,052,716	985,745	— 66,971	+ 27,389
E. Cotton	4,920,059	4,079,424	3,504,430	— 574,994	— 1,415,629
F. Wool	2,677,153	2,568,092	3,767,021	+ 1,198,930	+ 1,089,869
G. Other textile materials	1,334,645	1,308,930	1,322,242	+ 13,312	— 12,403
H. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums	1,864,735	2,211,145	1,921,062	— 290,083	+ 56,327
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	728,842	653,866	706,593	+ 52,727	— 22,249
J. Materials for paper making ...	239,530	242,807	275,447	+ 32,640	+ 35,917
K. Miscellaneous	2,014,544	2,058,948	2,041,734	— 17,214	+ 27,190
Total, Class II. ... £	15,665,952	15,145,659	15,592,929	+ 447,270	— 73,023
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	714,012	771,874	741,238	— 30,636	+ 27,226
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	1,626,686	1,763,790	1,748,211	— 15,579	+ 121,525
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	425,794	375,277	324,815	— 50,462	— 100,979
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus	5,960	2,512	2,911	+ 399	— 3,049
E. Machinery	398,541	491,491	505,895	+ 14,404	+ 107,354
F. Ships (new)	479	2,504	119	— 2,385	— 360
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	189,569	190,556	167,945	— 22,611	— 21,624
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	795,930	650,746	727,828	+ 77,082	— 68,102
2. Wool	1,058,926	1,152,162	1,248,913	+ 96,751	+ 189,987
3. Other materials	2,008,536	1,906,595	1,960,830	+ 54,235	— 47,706
I. Apparel	281,578	392,605	407,171	+ 14,566	+ 125,593
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	830,296	887,206	954,887	+ 67,681	+ 124,591
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves)	1,073,288	1,034,066	943,152	— 90,914	— 130,136
L. Earthenware and glass	403,805	408,160	363,963	— 44,197	— 39,842
M. Paper...	430,695	455,914	457,707	+ 1,793	+ 27,012
N. Miscellaneous	2,286,083	2,311,877	2,574,912	+ 263,035	+ 288,829
Total, Class III. ... £	12,530,178	12,797,335	13,130,497	+ 333,162	+ 600,319
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	142,801	229,311	221,024	— 8,287	+ 78,223
Total value of Imports £	46,915,524	43,692,275	43,983,312	+ 291,037	+ 2,066,783

*The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

Comparing the values of the imports of articles last month with those of March, 1904, the chief increases and decreases are as shown in the following statement:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in March, 1905.

Increases.

			£
I.	A.	Wheat	1,177,282
	B.	Mutton, fresh ...	97,725
	C1.	Oranges	81,416
	C2.	Sugar, unrefined...	187,706
II.	C.	Silver ore	76,343
	F.	Sheep or lambs' wool	1,217,471
	G.	Flax, dressed and undressed ...	182,316
III.	E.	Machinery, not steam engines or electrical ...	51,663
	H1.	Articles of cotton, other than cotton manufactures...	54,638
	H2.	Woollen stuffs ...	90,482
	N.	Motor cars and parts thereof ...	124,647

Decreases.

			£
I.	A.	Wheat meal and flour...	259,352
		Barley...	232,111
		Oats	67,763
		Maize	185,661
	B.	Bacon	141,872
		Meat preserved otherwise than by salting ...	54,115
	C1.	Butter...	188,661
		Eggs	105,478
		Fish, cured or salted	57,449
		Apples, raw ...	82,160
		Potatoes	223,493
I.–*ctd.*	C2.	Cocoa, raw	129,351
		Coffee	170,832
	D.	Tobacco, unmanufactured... ...	82,484
II.	D.	Wood and timber, hewn	83,041
	E.	Cotton, raw... ...	564,540
	G.	Jute	122,668
	H.	Petroleum	144,069
		Lac-dye, seedlac, &c.	106,258
III.	K.	Leather	60,936

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versâ*, may be noted, viz. :—

			Increase.	Decrease.
I.	B.	Cattle	64 No. ...	£10,602
		Beef, fresh	35,059 cwts. ...	£21,197
		Hams	10,139 „ ...	£1,795
	C2.	Sugar, refined, and sugar candy	£3,366	597,129 cwts.
		„ unrefined...	£187,706 ...	246,650 „
		Tea	501,886 lbs. ...	£22,404
		Rum	£1,160	68,695 proof gal.
	D.	Tobacco, manufactured, and snuff	£5,364	266,399 lbs.
II.	D.	Staves of all dimensions ...	£8,871	96 loads.
	E.	Cotton, raw	256,327 cwts. ...	£564,540
	K.	Bristles	£1,996	64,515 lbs.
		Seeds, clover and grass... ...	2,126 cwts. ...	£3,548
III.	A.	Pig-iron	£5,035	324 tons
	B.	Copper regulus and precipitate.	£12,018	44 „
	C.	Watches	£1,157	840 no.
	J.	Painters' colours and pigments.	12,844 cwts. ...	£1,552
	L.	Chinaware or porcelain and earthenware	3,135 „ ...	£2,229
		Strawboard, millboard, and wood pulp board	2,053 „ ...	£1,749
	N.	Paraffine wax	£3,293	9,596 cwts.
		Plaiting of straw, &c.	130,698 lbs.	£3,395

III.—EXPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Exports** of British produce for the month of March, 1905, as compared with the corresponding month of 1904 and 1903, and the increase or decrease in each principal category :—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in March, 1905.

Exports of British Produce.*

—	Month ended 31st March. 1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	137,616	140,356	251,427	+ 111,071	+ 113,811
B. Meat, including animals for food	44,514	47,085	56,920	+ 9,835	+ 12,406
C. Other food and drink	841,980	970,506	965,926	— 4,580	+ 123,946
D. Tobacco	55,011	60,094	81,964	+ 21,870	+ 26,953
Total, Class I. ... £	1,079,121	1,218,041	1,356,237	+ 138,196	+ 277,116
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke and patent fuel ...	2,152,523	2,394,181	2,076,717	— 317,464	— 75,806
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel ...	34,676	37,193	45,134	+ 7,941	+ 10,458
C. Other metallic ores...	9,179	12,059	9,214	— 2,845	+ 35
D. Wood and timber	2,430	1,879	6,553	+ 4,674	+ 4,123
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	87,541	108,396	112,526	+ 4,130	+ 24,985
G. Other textile materials	16,594	19,087	16,548	— 2,539	— 46
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums...	296,968	275,133	247,087	— 28,046	— 49,881
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	147,478	126,125	180,079	+ 53,954	+ 32,601
J. Materials for paper making ...	34,968	33,916	44,012	+ 10,096	+ 9,044
K. Miscellaneous	128,884	134,949	162,395	+ 27,446	+ 33,511
Total, Class II. ... £	2,911,241	3,142,918	2,900,265	— 242,653	— 10,976
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	2,809,704	2,323,476	2,718,466	+ 394,990	— 91,238
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	609,764	570,328	689,101	+ 118,773	+ 79,337
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	382,178	408,675	430,560	+ 21,885	+ 48,382
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus..	230,280	27,041	45,598	+ 18,557	— 184,682
E. Machinery	1,530,559	1,660,028	2,161,572	+ 501,544	+ 631,013
F. Ships (new)	443,057	288,456	147,700	— 140,756	— 295,357
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	144,014	98,552	95,840	— 2,712	— 48,174
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton...	6,601,284	6,541,608	8,075,521	+ 1,533,913	+ 1,474,237
2. Wool	2,057,575	1,994,172	2,654,703	+ 660,531	+ 597,128
3. Other materials	1,033,831	1,018,659	1,173,215	+ 154,556	+ 139,384
I. Apparel	711,862	501,279	515,986	+ 14,707	— 195,876
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	1,379,934	1,458,042	1,523,911	+ 65,869	+ 143,977
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes, and gloves)	443,351	372,709	477,763	+ 105,054	+ 34,412
L. Earthenware and glass	270,554	260,770	281,968	+ 21,198	+ 11,414
M. Paper...	143,736	161,805	177,340	+ 15,535	+ 33,604
N. Miscellaneous	2,005,134	1,874,077	2,261,611	+ 387,534	+ 256,477
Total, Class III. ... £	20,796,817	19,559,677	23,430,855	+ 3,871,178	+ 2,634,038
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	321,015	331,160	383,466	+ 52,306	+ 62,451
Total value of Exports of British produce ... £	25,108,194	24,251,796	28,070,823	+ 3,819,027	+ 2,962,629

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.

	£	£	£	£	£
Total value...	5,458,353	5,946,649	6,812,209	+ 865,560	+ 1,353,856

* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in March, 1905.

Comparing the values of the exports of the principal articles of British produce and manufacture in March, 1905, with those of March, 1904, the chief increases and decreases are as follow:—

Increases.

			£
I.	A.	Bran and pollard	84,739
III.	A.	Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ...	394,990
	E.	Steam engines	152,272
		Machinery, not steam engines or electrical ...	332,261
	H1.	Cotton yarn	245,950
		Cotton piece goods	1,252,641
	H2.	Woollen tissues	383,366
		Worsted tissues	120,506
	H3.	Linen piece-goods	87,345
	J.	Chemical manure	76,632
	K.	Leather, unwrought	51,235
	N.	Arms, ammunition, and military stores ...	178,659

Decreases.

			£
II.	A.	Coal, coke, and patent fuel	317,464
III.	F.	Ships, new	140,756
	J.	Copper, sulphate of	73,341
	N.	Railway passenger carriages and parts... ...	54,209

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versâ*, may be noted, viz.:—

			Increase.	Decrease.
I.	C.	Salt, rock and white	1,646 tons	... £2,909.
II.	C.	Metallic ores other than iron ore	598 „	... £2,845.
	F.	Wool, sheep or lambs	£4,130 ...	... 688,500 lbs.
	K.	Clay, unmanufactured	902 tons	... £1,905.
III.	H2.	Wool tops	£18,214...	... 315,900 lbs.
		Worsted yarn	£4,962 ...	... 400,100 „
		Wool carpets	£2,835 ...	... 46,800 yards.
	H3.	Jute piece-goods...	£5,232 ...	...1,295,300 „

IV.—TRADE DURING THE FIRST QUARTER OF 1905.

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** from foreign countries and British possessions during the three months ended 31st March last, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two previous years:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in March, 1905.

Imports from Foreign Countries and British Possessions.*

—	Three Months ended 31st March. 1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	14,714,310	16,964,875	16,657,485	− 307,390	+ 1,943,175
B. Meat, including animals for food	11,648,750	12,031,245	12,019,087	− 12,158	+ 370,337
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable...	14,265,615	15,427,957	14,315,258	− 1,112,699	+ 49,643
2. Dutiable	10,347,865	10,460,420	11,332,904	+ 872,484	+ 985,039
D. Tobacco	1,079,835	1,108,297	951,761	− 156,536	− 128,074
Total, Class I. ... £	52,056,375	55,992,794	55,276,495	− 716,299	+ 3,220,120
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke and patent fuel ...	1,638	1,140	1,281	+ 141	− 357
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel ...	1,298,521	1,063,031	1,263,807	+ 200,776	− 34,714
C. Other metallic ores...	1,468,806	1,764,651	1,957,709	+ 193,058	+ 488,903
D. Wood and timber	2,620,781	3,028,923	2,388,767	− 640,156	− 232,014
E. Cotton	15,477,834	16,104,645	13,438,709	− 2,665,936	− 2,039,125
F. Wool	8,447,836	7,891,709	11,098,576	+ 3,206,867	+ 2,650,740
G. Other textile materials	3,536,600	4,546,538	4,194,908	− 351,630	+ 658,308
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums	5,919,277	6,486,344	5,554,135	− 932,209	− 365,142
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	1,975,855	1,730,970	1,916,423	+ 185,453	− 59,432
J. Materials for paper making ...	695,008	713,223	757,819	+ 44,596	+ 62,811
K. Miscellaneous	5,394,720	5,596,898	5,778,241	+ 181,343	+ 383,521
Total Class II. ... £	46,836,876	48,928,072	48,350,375	− 577,697	+ 1,513,499
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	2,064,638	1,961,680	1,972,138	+ 10,458	− 92,500
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	4,210,836	4,849,612	5,215,152	+ 365,540	+ 1,004,316
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	1,073,119	965,670	867,699	− 97,971	− 205,420
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus..	22,996	9,246	20,059	+ 10,813	− 2,937
E. Machinery	1,131,899	1,124,594	1,156,430	+ 31,836	+ 24,531
F. Ships (new)	13,299	5,359	840	− 4,519	− 12,459
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	531,537	508,098	445,874	− 62,224	− 85,663
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton...	2,154,654	1,769,968	1,991,789	+ 221,821	− 162,865
2. Wool	3,152,942	3,032,299	3,363,748	+ 331,449	+ 210,806
3. Other materials	5,430,332	5,011,357	5,284,020	+ 272,663	− 146,312
I. Apparel	674,432	822,169	935,671	+ 113,502	+ 261,239
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	2,301,625	2,256,751	2,424,091	+ 167,340	+ 122,466
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes, and gloves)	3,001,617	2,699,450	2,647,085	− 52,365	− 354,532
L. Earthenware and glass	1,106,879	1,079,196	984,851	− 94,345	− 122,028
M. Paper	1,221,515	1,218,212	1,245,676	+ 27,464	+ 24,161
N. Miscellaneous	6,054,636	6,049,903	6,811,990	+ 762,087	+ 757,354
Total, Class III. ... £	34,146,956	33,363,564	35,367,113	+ 2,003,549	+ 1,220,157
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) ...	578,788	615,608	583,482	− 32,126	+ 4,694
Total ... ... £	133,618,995	138,900,038	139,577,465	+ 677,427	+ 5,958,470

* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

The value of the **Exports** of home produce and of foreign and colonial produce during the first three months of 1905, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1904 and 1903 is as shown in the following table:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in March, 1905.

Exports of British Produce.*

—	Three Months ended March. 1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	388,292	389,913	577,624	+ 187,711	+ 189,332
B. Meat, including animals for food.	144,938	144,801	150,424	+ 5,623	+ 5,486
C. Other food and drink	2,684,988	2,728,731	2,819,779	+ 91,048	+ 134,791
D. Tobacco	162,909	184,346	236,640	+ 52,294	+ 73,731
Total, Class I. ... £	3,381,127	3,447,791	3,784,467	+ 336,676	+ 403,340
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel ...	6,367,859	6,335,540	6,139,481	— 196,059	— 228,378
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel ...	89,380	101,910	114,980	+ 13,070	+ 25,600
C. Other metallic ores...	25,687	30,782	29,934	— 848	+ 4,247
D. Wood and timber	8,023	8,035	23,810	+ 15,775	+ 15,787
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	290,410	299,959	334,369	+ 34,410	+ 43,959
G. Other textile materials	43,128	37,816	52,747	+ 14,931	+ 9,619
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums...	793,918	706,133	605,548	— 100,585	— 188,370
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	415,784	392,194	505,470	+ 113,276	+ 89,686
J. Materials for paper making ...	101,943	100,810	131,537	+ 30,727	+ 29,594
K. Miscellaneous	421,778	447,743	502,254	+ 54,511	+ 80,476
Total, Class II. ... £	8,557,910	8,460,922	8,440,130	— 20,792	— 117,780
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	7,533,635	6,707,140	7,181,297	+ 474,157	— 352,338
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	1,639,139	1,639,799	1,798,491	+ 158,692	+ 159,352
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	1,084,003	1,149,269	1,188,563	+ 39,294	+ 104,560
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus	341,033	243,836	181,335	— 62,501	— 159,698
E. Machinery	4,386,514	4,606,269	5,230,150	+ 623,881	+ 843,636
F. Ships (new)	925,751	730,549	731,900	+ 1,351	— 193,851
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	402,259	306,104	287,537	— 18,567	— 114,722
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton...	19,602,934	20,628,183	22,960,143	+ 2,331,960	+ 3,357,209
2. Wool	6,803,307	6,988,481	8,149,783	+ 1,161,302	+ 1,346,476
3. Other materials	3,210,276	3,200,823	3,252,796	+ 51,973	+ 42,520
I. Apparel	2,274,349	1,616,970	1,510,598	— 106,372	— 763,751
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	3,700,513	3,741,318	3,933,631	+ 192,313	+ 233,118
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves)	1,336,964	1,095,739	1,320,438	+ 224,699	— 16,526
L. Earthenware and glass	803,760	747,129	765,769	+ 18,640	— 37,991
M. Paper...	436,671	469,581	485,394	+ 15,813	+ 48,723
N. Miscellaneous	5,417,775	5,519,045	6,053,911	+ 534,866	+ 636,136
Total, Class III. ... £	59,898 883	59,390.235	65 031,736	+ 5.641.501	+ 5.132.853
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	949,346	931,026	1,073,330	+ 142,304	+ 123,984
Total value... ... £	72,787,266	72,229,974	78,329,563	+ 6,099,589	+ 5,542,397

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.

	£	£	£	£	£
Total value...	17,664,399	19,063,990	20,545,819	+ 1,481,829	+ 2,881,420

* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship and are known as the "free on board" values.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in March, 1905.

V.—SHIPPING IN MARCH, 1905.

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month ended March, 1905, amounted to 3,114,976 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 4,054,533 tons, as against 3,245,104 tons entered and 4,147,836 tons cleared in the month of March, 1904. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during March, 1905, amounted to 2,766,517 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,760,705 tons, as against 2,727,813 tons entered, and 2,661,389 tons cleared in March, 1904.

VI.—THREE MONTHS' SHIPPING (JANUARY-MARCH).

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the three months ended March, 1905, amounted to 8,746,485 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 11,468,392 tons, as against 9,115,065 tons entered and 11,325,968 tons cleared during the corresponding period of 1904. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during the first three months of 1905 amounted to 7,874,983 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 7,812,833 tons, as against 7,928,953 tons entered and 7,755,358 tons cleared during the corresponding period of 1904.

PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

SWEDEN.

Proposed Modification of Sugar Legislation.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a despatch from H.M. Minister at Stockholm, containing particulars of two Bills which have been introduced into the Swedish Legislature proposing to modify the import and excise duties leviable on sugar.

The first Bill proposes the reduction of the import duty on refined sugar, and on unrefined sugar not darker than No. 18 Dutch standard, from 33 to 30 öre per kilog. (from 18*s.* 8*d.* to 17*s.* per cwt.); this reduction to come into force on the 1st January, 1906. The drawback on refined sugar made from imported raw sugar would at the same time be reduced from 28·2 to 26 öre per kilog. (to 27 öre in the case of sweetmeats).

The second Bill proposes an alteration in the method of levying

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the excise duty on sugar of home production. At present the duty, which is nominally levied at the rate of 11¾ öre per kilog. of sugar, is really levied on the beets used, 100 kilogs. of beets being assumed to yield 12 kilogs. of sugar. It is now proposed to levy the excise directly on the sugar brought to market, whether imported or of home production, at the rate of 13 öre per kilog. (7*s.* 4*d.* per cwt.). It is further proposed that in the event of the new excise duty coming into force imported sugar shall be subjected to this excise duty, and, in addition, to an import duty of 17 öre per kilog. (9*s.* 7½*d.* per cwt.) on refined sugar and on unrefined sugar not darker than No. 18 Dutch standard, and of 11¾ öre per kilog. (6*s.* 8*d.* per cwt.) on unrefined sugar darker than No. 18 Dutch standard and on unrefined liquid sugar. The drawback on refined sugar and sweetmeats made from imported sugar would be 13 öre per kilog. (7*s.* 4*d.* per cwt.).

Honey, glucose, malt sugar, and syrup or molasses, in which the proportion of sugar is under 70 per cent. of the weight of the dry substance, as also denatured sugar, are to be exempt from the excise duty.

Provision is made for Government control to be exercised over all sugar, whether imported or of home production, until it is brought to market.

It is proposed that this measure shall come into force on the 1st September, 1906. A supplementary Bill provides that, in the interval between the 1st September, 1905, and the 1st September, 1906, the present system of levying excise duty shall be maintained in force, with the modification that 100 kilogs. of beets shall be assumed to yield 13 kilogs. of sugar instead of 12 as heretofore.

TARIFF CHANGES

AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Customs Decisions.

A copy of the "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" for 25th February last, has been received, containing Customs decisions (Supplement No. 41 to the Customs Tariff Guide) relating to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into the Commonwealth.

The following are the principal decisions given:—

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—*continued.*

Articles, and how classed.	Rate of Import Duty.
*Bandages, horse—	
As surgical instruments, &c.	Free
Bands—being strips of cloth, such as beaver, used exclusively for trimming sides of women's hats—	
As trimmings	15 % *ad val.*
Boots, specially constructed for diving purposes—	
As diving apparel	Free
Boxes—containing empty bottles, the boxes not being outside packages in which such goods are ordinarily imported—	
As manufactures of wood	20 % *ad val.*
Ceilings (not being mouldings)—	
Plaster, composed of plaster of Paris and fibrous material—	
As other articles	Free
Mouldings of plaster, composed of plaster of Paris and fibrous material—	
As timber mouldings, &c.	5*s.* per 100 lin. ft.
Fasteners, shanks for buttons (imported alone)—	
As minor articles for apparel	Free
*Net—cotton window, in the piece, with whipped, taped, and woven edge—	
As cotton piece-goods...	5 % *ad val.*
Soap grease—being common soap stock—	
As soap, n.e.i.	½*d.* per lb.
*Syringes (brass)—	
As manufactures of metals, n.e.i.	20 % *ad val.*
Tins—tea, fancy—	
As boxes, cases, &c.	20 % „

* Revised decision.

Duty on Asphaltum Preservative Black Paint.

A Customs notice also appears in the same issue of the "Gazette" notifying that "Asphaltum Preservative Black Paint," which being capable of being used as a substitute for Brunswick black, will be chargeable accordingly with duty as such, at the rate of 20 per cent. *ad valorem*, on importation into the Commonwealth.

MONTSERRAT.

Continuation of the Revenue-in-Aid Ordinance of 1896 to 31st March, 1906.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, a copy of an Ordinance (No. 4 of 1904) continuing, until 31st March, 1906, the "Revenue-in-Aid Ordinance, 1896," under which an *additional* duty was imposed of 33⅓ per cent. of the duties payable on dutiable goods imported into Montserrat under the "Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1896," and also on the excise duties on rum manufactured within the Presidency under the "Rum Duty Ordinances of 1892 and 1893."

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ST. VINCENT.

Additional Duty continued during 1905.

A copy of an Ordinance (No. 11 of 1904) has been received, through the Colonial Office, directing that the *additional* duty of 10 per cent. on the duties leviable under the Customs Import Tariff Ordinances (Nos. 2 and 11 of 1895 and 4 of 1902) on goods imported into St. Vincent shall be continued in force during the calendar year 1905.

FRANCE.

Importation of Goods bearing Marks, &c., implying that they are of French Production.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a French Customs Circular, dated the 18th February last, calling attention to the provisions of the Law of the 11th January, 1892, which prohibits the importation, bonding, transit, and circulation in France of all foreign products, raw or manufactured, bearing either on themselves, or on the boxes, bales, coverings, &c, in which they are packed, a manufacturer's or trade mark, a name, or mark, or any indication whatever of a nature to lead the purchaser to believe that the articles are of French origin or manufacture.

It is pointed out that this prohibition covers foreign products bearing the marks of French trading establishments, such as, for example, "*au Louvre*," without regard to the question whether such establishments themselves manufacture articles similar to those which they import under the above-mentioned marks.

The employment of the French language to describe the nature of imported products does not in itself constitute an infraction of the Law, except in those cases where the description is calculated to deceive the purchaser as to the real origin of the product, as, for example, in the case of imported hosiery bearing the words "Carnot," "Loubet," "Millerand," or "Jules Lemaître," without any clear indication of its foreign origin.

With regard to those articles introduced into France from a place of the same name as that of a French locality, the Law provides that such goods must, if the name of the place be marked thereon, bear also the name of the country of origin, together with the word "*importé*" in legible characters, or some other formula in which the fact of importation and the name of the country of origin are both clearly indicated—*e.g.*, "*fabriqué en Allemagne*," "*fabriqué en Italie*." The word "*importé*" alone, however, without the addition of the name of the country of origin, is not held to be sufficient. Customs officers are further warned against the practice which obtains of marking the country of origin and the word "*importé*" simply *in varnish*, with a view to the easy removal of the mark when the goods arrive at their destination in France.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—PANAMA CANAL ZONE.

Duties on Imports into the United States from the Canal Zone.

A recent Circular of the United States Treasury Department, which has been received at the Board of Trade through the Foreign Office, contains the text of an Act of Congress, approved 2nd March, 1905, providing that all laws affecting imports of merchandise and entry of persons into the United States from foreign countries shall apply to imports and persons coming from the Panama Canal Zone.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

New Customs Tariff.

With reference to the notices which appeared in the "Journal" for the 19th and 26th January, and for the 2nd February last, in which particulars were given of proposed modifications in the Philippine Customs Tariff, the following statement shows, so far as regards the articles of most importance to British trade, in what respects the new Tariff as finally approved differs from the original proposals. With these exceptions the proposed alterations, of which particulars were given in the "Journal" for the 19th and 26th January, have been adopted. The new Tariff, as amended, comes into force 60 days after the date of passage of the Act*, but it is provided that merchandise in transit at the time when the new Tariff comes into force may, for a period of 60 days after that event, be entered under the provisions of law existing at the time of shipment.

(NOTE.—Alterations in, or additions to, the originally proposed Tariff classification, are indicated by *italic* type.)

Tariff No.	New Tariff Classification.	Rates of Duty.		
		At present.	Originally Proposed.	Finally Adopted.
		Dols. cts.	Dols. cts.	†Dols. cts.
6	Coal and coke ...	Ton (metric) 0 25	Ton (metric) 0 50	Ton (metric) 0 25
Ad 32 and 33	Proviso.—*Provided that none of the articles classified under Nos.* 32 *and* 33‡ *shall pay a less rate of duty than* 15 *per cent. ad valorem.*			

* The Act was *approved* on the 3rd March, 1905.

† Sec. 8 of the new Tariff provides that duty shall be paid in the money of the United States, or its equivalent in Philippine currency.

‡ *i.e.* Manufactures of cast-iron, polished or turned, or coated or ornamented with another metal or with porcelain, enamel, &c.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

Tariff No.	New Tariff Classification.	Rates of Duty. At present.	Rates of Duty. Originally Proposed.	Rates of Duty. Finally Adopted.
		Dols. cts.	Dols. cts.	Dols. cts.
Ad 58	*Proviso.*—Provided that none of the articles classified under this paragraph* shall pay a less rate of duty than *fifteen* per cent. *ad valorem.* [In the proposed proviso the minimum rate of duty was 20 per cent. *ad valorem.*]			
80	Opium—			
	(*a*) Crude	Kilog. 3 00	Kilog. 4 00	Kilog. 4 00
	(*b*) Manufactured or prepared for smoking or other purposes	„ 3 50	„ 5 00	„ 5 00

Provided, however, that the Philippine Commission or any subsequent Philippine legislature shall have the power to enact legislation to prohibit absolutely the importation or sale of opium, or to limit or restrict its importation and sale, or adopt such other measures as may be required for the suppression of the evils resulting from the sale and use of the drug. And provided further, that after March first, nineteen hundred and eight, it shall be unlawful to import into the Philippine Islands opium, in whatever form, except by the Government, and for medicinal purposes only, and at no time shall it be lawful to sell opium to any native of the Philippine Islands except for medicinal purposes.

84 (*d*)	Artificial or natural colours, other than white and red lead prepared in paste *or ready for use*, in oil, water, *varnish or turpentine*	100 kgs. 5 00	100 kgs. 5 00	100 kgs. 5 00
104	Soap and other scouring compositions; all soaps, soap powders and preparations and similar scouring compositions...	Various rates	20 % *ad val.*	15 % *ad val.*
179	Writing, letter, note, ledger, bond and record paper, ruled or unruled, unprinted, white or coloured...	100 kgs. 3 00	100 kgs. 4 50	100 kgs. 3 00
Ex 238	Parts of watches and clocks commonly known as watch and clock materials and suitable for repairs only, including watch crystals	20 % *ad val.*	25 % *ad val.*	20 % *ad val.*

* *i.e.*, Unenumerated common manufactures of wrought iron or steel.

(*To be continued*).

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRAZIL.

Budget Law for 1905.

The following is a statement of the principal alterations effected by the Brazilian Budget Law for 1905, as regards the import and consumption duties, &c., leviable in Brazil:—

1. The import duties on the undermentioned articles are increased:—

		Rate of Duty. Former. *Reis.*	New. *Reis.*
Dried and salted meat (*xarque*)	... kilog.	140	150
Potatoes	„	40	80
Onions	„	200	300
Rice—unhusked	„	60	120
„ husked	„	90	

2. The "surtax" of 10 per cent. (paper) imposed on the registration charges (*expediente*) leviable on duty-free goods is continued in force.

3. The export duties of the Acre Territory are now paid to the Federal Government, the duty on rubber being 18 per cent. *ad valorem*.

4. The consumption duties on spirits and liqueurs are reduced by 50 per cent., and are now as follows:—

Spirits and liqueurs, in casks ... 300 reis per litre.
„ „ in bottles ... { 200 „ bottle.
100 „ ½ bottle.

5. The consumption duty on foreign wines in bottles is fixed as follows:—

Up to 14 degrees of absolute alcohol ... 50 reis per bottle.
Above 14 „ „ „ ... 100 „ „

6. The consumption duty on common salt is increased from 15 to 20 reis per kilog.

7. The 2 per cent. surtax on cereals, and the 2 per cent. "port tax," are continued with the following modifications:—

(i.) The 2 per cent. surtax on cereals is also levied on *wheat* and on all kinds of *meal and flour*, which were formerly exempt.

(ii.) The *valuation* for rice has been increased to 800 reis per kilog.

(iii.) The 2 per cent. port tax is *not* levied on the articles subject to the "surtax on cereals."

(iv.) The 2 per cent. port tax is levied at Rio Grande do Sul as well as at Rio de Janeiro.

(v.) The tax of from 1 to 5 reis per kilog. of merchandise loaded or discharged at certain ports is maintained in force.

8. The Government are authorised, as in former years, to levy 25 per cent. of the import duties in gold.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRAZIL—*continued.*

9. The Government are authorised to permit the free importation of the following articles:—

(*a*) Dairy apparatus and agricultural implements and machines for the preparation of agricultural products, directly imported by the farmers, manufacturers, &c.

(*b*) Drugs and instruments imported by anti-tuberculosis associations.

(*c*) Seeds and specimens of living plants; pedigree animals for the improvement of the stock of horses, cattle, mules, sheep, and swine.

(*d*) Silkworms' eggs.

10. Stamped tinplates for the manufacture of tins for butter or lard are free of duty when imported by the producers of those articles, subject to the payment of the registration charge (*expediente*) of 5 per cent.

11. The exemptions from duty of machinery and materials for water supply and street improvements, railway extensions, port works, and central factories, and of agricultural machinery imported by agricultural syndicates, are largely extended.

Withdrawal of Preferential Treatment of Imports from the United States.

It is to be noted that in the new Budget the authorisation to grant preferential duties to foreign products has been withdrawn from the executive. Imports from the United States, therefore, cease to benefit by the reduction of 20 per cent. allowed on certain articles* during part of the year 1904.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

New Valuation Tariff: Principal Modifications (*continued from p.* 513 *of the "Journal" for the* 16*th March.*)

(NOTE.—New classifications are indicated by *italic* type.)

No. in New Valuation Tariff.	Articles.	Unit.	Valuation.		Duty.
			Former.	Present.	
	VI.—HIDES AND SKINS, TANNED.		Pesos.	Pesos.	
300	Calf skins, waxed or tanned in a natural state	Kilog.	2·20	2·10	40 % *ad val.*
314	Sole leather: Imitation, or residues of leather, compressed ...	"	0·25	0·15	25 % "

* *See* the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 19th April, 1904, p. 315.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—*continued.*

No. in New Valuation Tariff.	Articles.	Unit.	Valuation. Former.	Valuation. Present.	Duty.
	X.—JEWELLERY.		Pesos.	Pesos.	
587	Alarum clocks, common ...	Doz.	8·00	5·00	25 % *ad val.*
588	" " of medium quality ...	"	20·00	8·00	25 % "
	XVII.—MADE-UP ARTICLES AND READY-MADE CLOTHING.				
	Undervests (*camisetas*):				
1796	Of cotton, called crepé ...	Kilog.	6·00	3·00	50 % "
1797	Of wool, pure or mixed, called crepé	"		4.00	
1798	Of linen	"		5·00	
1816	Neckties of silk, pure or mixed with other textiles, with or without lining or interior trimming	"	9·00* / 20·00†	12·00	50 % "
1825	*Collars of celluloid*	Doz.	Not stated	0·50	25 % "
1827	*Lace collars, cotton, linen, or a mixture of these, for women and children*...	Kilog.	"	8·00	25 % "
1828	*The same, containing silk* ...	"	"	12·00	40 % "
1829	*The same, of silk*	"	"	18·00	40 % "
1830	*Collars and cuffs of embroidered tissues, except silk* ...	"	"	4·00	50 % "
1834	Gloves of cotton, linen, or imitations thereof, lined and plushy	"	4·00	3·00	50 % "
1841	Frock coats and jackets for men, of woollen tissue, pure or mixed with other fibres...	Each	10·00	15·00	50 % "
1842	The same, of other tissues of all kinds, except silk ...	"	4·00	6·00	50 % "
1855	Overcoats of all kinds for men, of pure or mixed woollen tissues	"	12·00	15·00	50 % "
1856	The same, for children ...	"	6·00	8·00	50 % "
1863	*Gaiters of wool, pure or mixed*	Kilog.	Not stated	6·00	50 % "
1876	Mantles for ladies, of velvet or plush or silk, pure or mixed, weight with box ...	Each	plush 20·00 / velvet 30·00	25·00	50 % "
1877	*The same, of furs made up* ...	"	Not stated	30·00	25 % "
1878	Suits of clothes, for men, of woollen tissue, pure or mixed, jacket or frock coat form	Suit	15·00	18·00	50 % "
1879	The same, sack coat form ...	"	12·00	15·00	50 % "

* Lined or trimmed with other textile materials. † Other.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—*continued.*

No. in New Valuation Tariff.	Articles.	Unit.	Valuation. Former.	Valuation. Present.	Duty.
	XIX.—CERAMIC AND GLASSWARE.		Pesos.	Pesos.	
	Notes—(3) Articles of glazed earthenware, plain, white inside, such as teapots, teacups, &c., are to be classified as common earthenware.*				
	(4) Articles of glazed earthenware decorated or gilt, such as teapots, teacups, sugar basins, &c., *shall be valued 25 per cent. higher than common white earthenware.**				
	(5) Hollow glass, cut or engraved, shall be appraised with a surtax of *80 per cent.*† on the valuations established for plain glass.				
	GLASS, COMMON, AND CRYSTAL.				
	Soap dishes, brush and sponge boxes—				
2449	*Of glass*	Doz.	Not stated	2·00	25 % *ad val.*
2450	*Of crystal*	"	"	7·00	25 % "
	Jars—				
2451	*Of glass, with metal lid* ...	"	"	3·00	25 % "
2452	*Of crystal,* " " ...	"	"	10·00	25 % "
2461	*Basins and pitchers of glass*...	"	"	3·00	25 % "
2462	*The same of crystal*	"	"	10·00	25 % "
2486	*Broken glass, in general* ...	Kilog.	"	0·01	25 % "
	EARTHENWARE AND PORCELAIN.				
2489	*Trays of earthenware, with or without wooden frame* ...	Doz.	"	2·50	25 % "
2490	*The same of porcelain, or with nickel frame*...	"	"	4·00	25 % "
	Water closet fittings—				
2491	*Earthenware, common, in two pieces*	Each.	"	0·60	25 % "
2492	*With base of chinaware, white or cream coloured*	"	"	2·50	25 % "
2493	*The same, coloured*	"	"	4·00	25 % "
2494	*With pedestal of chinaware, white*	"	"	4·00	25 % "
2495	*The same, coloured*	"	"	5·00	25 % "

* In the former Tariff, these two classes of earthenware were both dutiable as common earthenware.

† 100 per cent. in the former Tariff.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—*continued.*

No. in New Valuation Tariff.	Articles.	Unit.	Valuation. Former.	Valuation. Present.	Duty.
			Pesos.	Pesos.	
	Egg cups, with stand, of—				
2517	Common white earthenware	Doz.	5·00	3·00	25 % *ad val.*
2518	White porcelain	"	8·00	6·00	25 % "
	Flower pots—				
2519	*Of white earthenware* ...	Kil. gr.	Not stated	0·15	25 % "
2520	*Of decorated earthenware...*	"	"	0·20	25 % "
	Maté pots—				
2521	*With or without foot, of earthenware*	Doz.	"	0·40	25 % "
2522	*The same, of porcelain* ...	"	"	0·80	25 % "
	Vessels for lavatories—				
2535	*Of earthenware*	"	"	0·40	25 % "
2536	*Of porcelain...*	"	"	0·80	25 % "
	MISCELLANEOUS.				
2544	Tiles, mosaic, for courts, vestibules, &c., up to 14 mm. in thickness	Kil. gr.	0·07	0·06	50 % "
2555	*Demijohns from 1 to 6 litres capacity*	Doz.	Not stated	1·50	25 % "

Warehousing and Porterage Dues on Coarse Salt.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that an Argentine Presidential Decree has been issued directing that the warehousing dues and the dues for porterage &c. (*almacenaje y eslingaje*), on coarse salt are to be charged on the value, and not (as the new Valuation Tariff provides) on the weight, of the salt.

The above-mentioned dues will therefore be levied as follows :—

If the salt is warehoused—

Warehousing due, ¼ per cent. per month.

Porterage due, ½ per cent.

If the salt is not warehoused—

Porterage due, ⅜ per cent.

Duty on India-rubber Tubes.

The Argentine "Boletin Oficial" for the 21st February, contains a Customs notification to the effect that imported indiarubber tubes packed only in a wooden box, whether wrapped in paper or not, are to pay duty on the gross weight.

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Railway Rates.

According to the "Cape Argus," an agreement has been arrived at between the South African railway administrations, whereby, in cases where the rate over the Natal and Cape lines for the conveyance of articles manufactured in the coast colonies wholly or partly from imported materials is less than the through rate to the Transvaal and Orange River Colonies for the conveyance of the raw material from abroad, a rebate of the difference will be made to those manufacturers who certify that such material has actually been used in the manufacture of the particular commodities made by them.

EGYPT—SUDAN.

Altered Name of New Red Sea Port.

With reference to the notice on p. 266 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd February, the "Sudan Gazette" notifies that the port on the Red Sea, hitherto known as Sheikh El Barghut, which will be the principal terminus of the railway on the Red Sea, will henceforth be designated "Port Sudan," and not "Bandar Sudan" as previously announced.

GERMANY.

Reduced freight on German Coal to Schleswig-Holstein in order to compete with British.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office, from H.M. Consul-General at Hamburg (Sir W. Ward), reporting that in all probability the German railway rates of freight for German coal from Westphalia, and from Silesia to the various ports and places in the Prussian Province of Schleswig and Holstein, will very shortly be reduced by about 1*s.* per ton. Sir W. Ward adds there can be little doubt that, especially if the Westphalian Rhenish Coal Syndicate should reduce the price of coal sold to Schleswig-Holstein consignees, the measure in question (if actually carried out) will have a prejudicial effect upon the export trade of British coal to Schleswig-Holstein ports.

Although the proposed reduction in the railway rates of freight for German coal to the province of Schleswig-Holstein is, it is stated, welcomed by the industrial classes in that province, its adoption is strongly deprecated by the numerous shipowners at Kiel, Flensburg, Rendsburg, and other Schleswig-Holstein ports who derive benefit from, and largely depend upon, the importation of British coal. It is nevertheless, as stated above, probable that the reduction of railway freight in favour of German coal will shortly be put into force.

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Shipping and Transport.

BELGIUM.

Opening of Bruges-Zeebrugge Canal.

A despatch has been received from H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Mr. E. Cecil Hertslet) to the effect that the new ship canal from Zeebrugge to Bruges will shortly be opened for navigation, although the official opening will be delayed until the works at the entrance to Zeebrugge are completed, and that, in anticipation of the canal being open at an early date, most of the warehouses and shed space available at Bruges have been let.

CHILE.

Method of Payment of Light Dues.

With reference to the notice on page 78 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 12th January respecting the place of payment of light dues in Chile, it is noted that the "Diario Oficial" of 20th February contains a Decree embodying the regulations to be observed by masters of vessels paying these dues at the Valparaiso Custom House.

The "Diario" may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

CHINA.

Progress of the Ching-Han Railway.

According to the "North China Herald," the Ching-Han railway, now nearing completion, will become a strong factor in the opening of the interior of China. Starting from Pekin, it is constructed right through the centre of the great plain to the city of Hankow, the great growing emporium on the Yangtze river. It passes through three provinces (Chihli, Honan, Hupeh) and the prefectural cities of Paoting and Shuntê in Chihli; Changtê and Weihui in Honan. From Pekin to the Yellow River the track is 620 kilometres long, and from the Yellow River to Hankow 515·5, or nearly 1,200 kilometres altogether. The bridge over the Yellow River is being rapidly built.

There will be 102 spans, but not of equal dimensions. Already 22 are completed from the south and ten from the north side. It is expected that the work will be finished in about five months.

The "Herald" states further that, under present conditions, the journey from Pekin to Hankow occupies five days at the least and possibly seven. In a few more months four days will suffice, and when the bridge over the Yellow River is open the Yantze port will be within two days' travel of the capital.

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MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—QUEENSLAND.

Wolfram and Molybdenite Deposits.

According to the "Queensland Government Mining Journal," Mr. Dunstan, the Acting Government Geologist, has lately returned from a four months' examination of the wolfram deposits of North Queensland. Nearly all the wolfram mines were visited, samples were collected, and all the necessary information was obtained to prepare a bulletin on the general subject of wolfram mining in Northern Queensland. Regarding the prospects of wolfram, Mr. Dunstan is of opinion that it will be found other than as a surface deposit, and says that on many fields there are well-defined lodes which have every indication of permanence in depth. The same may be said of molybdenite, the mineral usually accompanying wolfram.

MEXICO.

British *v.* American Machinery.

In his recent report, Mr. Biorklund, Clerk to H.M. Legation in Mexico, remarks that the supremacy of American imports is easily understood, as, owing to the proximity of the two countries, orders can be much more easily executed, and American manufacturers are continually introducing improvements in all kinds of machinery, whether for agricultural or industrial purposes. American machinery, however, is never so serviceable as that made by the British manufacturer, for when once the latter finishes his machine it remains unchanged for many years, and repairs are always to be had, which cannot be said of those of American manufacture. In this case, when once a patent has run out, a small alteration will require a new patent, and the machine being out of date is very often rendered useless unless the purchaser orders a casting to be made of the piece which is required, at a cost which is very often exorbitant for the extent of the repair. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,332).

JAPAN.

Briquette Making.

According to the "Japan Herald" the Japanese Navy Department are about to start a factory for making briquettes on a large scale, the necessary plant having arrived. Great saving, it is thought, will be effected; in fact, the Imperial Navy is represented as likely to be able to dispense with the imported article. The material is to be procured from the colliery at Yamaguchi recently acquired by the Navy Department.

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

JAPAN—FORMOSA.

Gold Production.

According to the monthly report for February of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce, the value of the gold produced in Formosa during 1904, amounted to 1,800,000 yen against 1,000,000 yen, the record for 1901. This shows the great progress the gold mining industry in that island has made during the past few years. The principal mines in the island, now being worked, are Shozuiho, Kinsoseki and Botanko, the annual production of each mine being valued at 500,000 or 600,000 yen. At Taito, Giran, Keelung, and some other places there are several mines now under trial boring, and in addition applications for working 15 other gold fields have recently been received by the authorities. The mountainous districts running through the middle of the island are believed to contain rich gold deposits, but investigations have not yet been made in this connection.

NOTE.—Yen=2s. 0½d.

YARNS AND TEXTILES.

MEXICO.

Cotton Industry.

Mr. Biorklund, Clerk to H.M. Legation in Mexico, in his report on the trade of that country in the year 1903 (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,332), states that the imports of raw cotton into Mexico in 1903 were greater than in previous years, and would therefore appear to indicate that the textile industry of Mexico continues to increase. The following table, drawn up from the official returns, shows the condition of the same in the five years 1899–1903:—

—	1899.	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
Factories in operation No.	137	149	124	128	114
Consumption of raw material ... Kilos.	27,050,516	30,582,607	28,768,664	27,480,238	28,147,164
Pieces produced ... No.	10,782,349	11,802,986	11,056,073	10,721,848	12,178,990
Yarn produced ... Kilos.	1,827,196	1,730,749	1,882,534	1,703,557	2,104,540
Workmen employed No.	25,761	28,617	25,668	26,348	26,609
Looms in operation "	16,335	19,136	17,725	20,124	20,287
Spindles in operation "	526,308	612,939	554,180	627,800	628,096

NOTE.—Rectified figures since publication.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Exports of Cotton Goods.

The following statement, showing the exports of cotton goods (domestic manufacture) from the United States to the undermentioned countries during the two months ended February, 1904 and 1905, has been compiled from the official statistics issued by the United States Government:—

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Yarns and Textiles.

To	Two months ended February. 1904.	1905.
Coloured and uncoloured cloths—	Yards.	Yards.
United Kingdom	280,412	677,479
France	—	—
Germany	27,152	6,021
Other Europe	237,153	189,110
British North America	1,681,763	1,496,706
Central America and British Honduras	3,666,486	5,286,681
Mexico	415,351	514,894
Cuba	766,304	1,684,660
Other West Indies and Bermuda	3,480,281	4,863,676
Argentina	565,048	956,486
Brazil	1,686,678	2,191,219
Chile	2,706,639	1,793,179
Colombia	2,217,636	2,693,895
Venezuela	1,347,206	1,365,289
Other South America	925,304	1,236,683
Chinese Empire	22,713,227	73,491,625
British East Indies	1,937,974	2,120,721
Hong-Kong	31,877	130,784
Japan	7,372	2,215,672
British Australasia	780,438	896,651
Philippine Islands	841,508	3,366,233
Other Asia and Oceania	5,282,796	1,300,328
British Africa	1,237,671	940,818
All other Africa	84,871	80,452
Total quantity ... ... Yards	52,921,147	109,499,262
Total value ... ... Dols.	3,149,931	6,379,117
Other cotton goods—	Dollars.	Dollars.
United Kingdom	151,172	141,099
Belgium	9,361	10,228
France	903	4,018
Germany	171,261	71,950
Netherlands	7,010	2,937
Other Europe	12,654	8,437
British North America	377,982	328,235
Central America and British Honduras	95,237	104,494
Mexico	80,233	88,183
Cuba	41,936	35,438
Other West Indies and Bermuda	35,048	37,336
Argentina	10,654	46,649
Brazil	13,557	9,748
Chile	4,341	1,483
Colombia	13,242	10,853
Venezuela	10,486	3,495
Other South America	5,578	6,152
Chinese Empire	3,999	16,885
British East Indies	281	771
Hong-Kong	3,775	2,838
British Australasia	66,893	64,576
Philippine Islands	5,094	15,532
Other Asia and Oceania	11,075	16,832
British Africa	29,430	26,987
All other Africa	916	1,547
Other countries	1,118	1,945
Total value ... ... Dols.	1,163,236	1,058,648
Grand total value of all cotton goods exported...	4,313,167	7,437,765

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 8th April, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.*	9*d.*
Barley	25*s.*	6*d.*
Oats	17*s.*	0*d.*

For further particulars see p. 84.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 85, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 8th April, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

RUSSIA.

Supervision of Export of Grain.

According to a report received from the British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke), the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" (St. Petersburg) publishes an Imperial Decree empowering the Minister of Finance, as a temporary measure, for the period of five years, to authorise at ports and frontiers the establishment by the Bourses, where requested by the latter, of a supervising control over grain for export, and to levy a special due, in favour of the Bourse Committees, to cover the expenses of the said control. The due in question is not to exceed 1-30th copeck per poud (about ½*d.* per ton) of exported grain.

The Bourse Committees will submit detailed proposals with reference to the above to the Minister of Finance, who, in conjunction with the Minister of Agriculture, will confirm the same.

ARGENTINA.

Decree as to Importation of Pedigree Stock.

The "Boletin Oficial" of Argentina of 2nd March publishes a Decree relating to the importation of pedigree stock into that country. Henceforth the pedigrees of all blood animals must be produced at the time of their quarantine examination, together with a statement of such marks and traits as may assist in identifying them. The inspector of imports and exports will register all the data furnished—name, sex, race, place of birth, number and date of inscription on the stock records in the country of origin, as well as the above-mentioned identification marks. When the sanitary regulations have been complied with, the inspector will return the pedigree to the proprietor of the animal, having previously endorsed that document with its number in his official register, and a statement as to the acceptance or sacrifice of the animal under Article 53 of the Sanitary Regulations.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 6th April, 1905, was 70,936 (including 33 bales British West Indian), and the number imported during the 14 weeks ended the 6th April was 1,228,397 (including 644 bales British West African and 956 bales British West Indian). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 6th April, 1905, 7,701 bales, and for the 14 weeks, 151,773 (including 16 bales British West African).

For further details see p. 84.

A return showing the number of bales of cotton imported and exported, forwarded from ports to Inland towns, and returned to ports during the month and three months ended 31st March, last, will be found on p. 83.

Emigration.

The number of emigrants that left the United Kingdom during the month of March, 1905, was 45,117, as compared with 35,203 during the same month of 1904.

For further details see p. 86.

Alien Immigration.

The number of aliens arriving at ports in the United Kingdom during March, 1905, was 20,115, and during the three months ended 31st March, 48,287. Detailed statistics of alien immigration will be found on p. 87.

RUSSIA.

Increase of Taxation.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) reports that according to the official "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" of St. Petersburg, the Russian Ministry of Finance have decided to impose the following increases of taxation:

1. Two per cent. further deduction from wages of official employés receiving over 600 roubles per annum.
2. An increase of 50 per cent. on the taxes on transfers of property.
3. An increase of 33⅓ per cent. on the beer excise.
4. An increase of 100 per cent. on the excise on grain and liquid yeast of home production, and of 71 per cent. on foreign.
5. A tax of 60 copecks per poud on products obtained from the distillation of naphtha.
6. An increase of 100 per cent. on the excise on matches.

The estimated additional receipts from the above are 18,000,000 roubles. The burden of the additional taxation, the above journal states, will fall rather on the well-to-do than on the poorer classes

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Miscellaneous.

The supplementary deductions from wages of official employés will be introduced, as at present proposed, from 1st May, 1905, while the period for the introduction of the remaining items will be published later.

GERMANY.

Cartels and Syndicates in 1904.

The report for the year 1904 on the trade of Germany, by H.M. Consul-General at Berlin (Mr. P. Schwabach) contains on pp. 53-7 a short synopsis of the more important cartels, syndicates and price conventions &c., either newly formed or renewed in the course of 1904. Those interested should refer to the report itself. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,333), obtainable from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C., at a cost of 3*d*.

FRANCE—ST. PIERRE AND MIQUELON.

Appointment of British Consul.

The Board of Trade are informed by the Foreign Office that Mr. C. S. Hampson has been appointed H.M. Consul for the Islands of St. Pierre and Miquelon, with residence at St. Pierre.

COREA.

Imports of Railway Materials at Chemulpo.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Minister-Resident and Consul-General at Seoul, (Sir J. N. Jordan, K.C.M.G.), remarking on the rapid extension of railway construction in Corea, and transmitting the following table, furnished by the Chief Commissioner of Customs, showing the value of railway materials imported at Chemulpo during 1904 according to nationality of origin:—

——	Value.
	£
United States of America	73,917
United Kingdom	57,352
Japan	40,035
France	108
Total	171,412

Sir John Jordan adds that the above figures are not, however, complete, as they do not include the large quantities of material of this kind imported in transports flying the Japanese flag, which are treated as Government-owned vessels and are exempted from Customs control. There was also a large import at Fusan.

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.—March, 1905.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, and Returned to Ports during the Month and Three Months ended 31st March, 1905, compared with the corresponding Period of the Year 1904.

	Month of March.		Three Months ended 31st March.	
	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*
	Imports.			
American	212,220	*151,969*	895,968	*733,433*
Brazilian	8,205	*22,078*	12,377	*51,608*
East Indian	1,444	*16,707*	14,829	*43,150*
Egyptian	62,420	*42,897*	154,916	*158,278*
Miscellaneous	3,469*	*5,200*	19,946†	*12,016*
Total	282,758	*238,851*	1,098,036	*998,485*
	Exports.			
American	29,898	*28,014*	96,889	*116,580*
Brazilian	—	*300*	828	*2,652*
East Indian	871	*7,174*	4,683	*15,246*
Egyptian	11,515	*6,074*	33,336	*30,328*
Miscellaneous	266	*1,665*	716	*2,875*
Total	42,545	*43,227*	185,452	*167,681*
	Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns.			
American	266,818	*189,640*	811,069	*584,669*
Brazilian	2,660	*10,118*	7,216	*24,250*
East Indian	1,591	*5,667*	8,994	*17,201*
Egyptian	35,220	*29,940*	99,401	*103,330*
Miscellaneous	3,044	*2,418*	9,000	*11,925*
Total	308,333	*237,783*	935,680	*741,375*
	Forwarded from Inland Towns to Ports.			
American	124	*295*	670	*1,372*
Brazilian	—	—	—	—
East Indian	—	—	—	—
Egyptian	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—
Total	124	*295*	670	*1,372*

* Including 125 bales British West African and 679 bales British West Indian.
† Including 347 bales British West African and 917 bales British West Indian.

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Cotton Returns—*continued.*

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 14 Weeks ended 6th April, 1905.

—	Week ended 6th April 1905.	14 Weeks ended 6th April 1905.	Week ended 6th April 1905.	14 Weeks ended 6th April 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	64,681	1,011,570†	6,441	109,465
Brazilian	900	13,277	—	328
East Indian	2,296	17,082	—	4,683
Egyptian	2,938	166,097	1,170	36,491
Miscellaneous	121*	20,371‡	90	806§
Total	70,936	1,228,397	7,701	151,773

* Including 33 bales British West Indian.
† Corrected figures.
‡ Including 644 bales British West African and 956 bales British West Indian.
§ Including 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 8th April, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 8th April, 1905	30	9	25	6	17	0
Corresponding week in—						
1898	35	3	28	0	18	2
1899	24	6	25	7	16	10
1900	25	11	24	5	17	8
1901	26	5	26	0	18	1
1902	27	5	26	7	21	0
1903	25	4	21	10	17	2
1904	27	10	22	5	16	5

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 8th April, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 8th April, 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	11,147	*5,973*
Sheep and lambs	"	4,689	*3,901*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	258	*409*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	91,741	*75,685*
Mutton	"	46 931	*102,548*
Pork	"	10,836	*10,922*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	94,640	*95,284*
Beef	"	2,526	*2,087*
Hams	"	19,664	*18,947*
Pork	"	8,466	*5,427*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	25,490	*13,702*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	8,080	*16,361*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	89,153	*77,341*
Margarine	"	25,000	*16,449*
Cheese	"	19,657	*31 902*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	30	—
" cream	"	92	*50*
" condensed	"	17,906	*19,438*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	26	*26*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	330,836	*213,159*
Poultry	Value £	17,808	*4,598*
Game	"	1,770	*1,092*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	3,788	*4,427*
Lard	"	36,585	*22,619*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	2,496,400	*1,991.160*
Wheat meal and flour	"	176,200	*276,560*
Barley	"	280,100	*297,100*
Oats	"	261,500	*104,100*
Peas	"	47,570	*30,900*
Beans	"	25,710	*39,730*
Maize or Indian corn	"	574,800	*780,460*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	68,903	*40,914*
Apricots and peaches	"	7	*6*
Bananas	Bunches.	108,977	*40,957*
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	448	*391*
Lemons	"	24,702	*19,094*
Oranges	"	138,018	*165,273*
Pears	"	66	*154*
Plums	"	27	*26*
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	422	*154*
Hay...	Tons.	1,714	*2,087*
Straw	"	1,617	*2,591*
Moss Litter*	"	1,438	—
Hops	Cwts.	273	*799*
Locust Beans	"	24,126	*58,503*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	154,907	*209,968*
Potatoes	Cwts.	26,180	*236.766*
Tomatoes	"	27,507	*17,849*
Unenumerated	Value £	12,470	*13,512*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	1,611	*1,801*
Preserved by canning...	"	5,297	*4,538*

* Not shown in 1904.

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Emigration.—March, 1905.

Return of the **Numbers, Nationalities,** and **Destinations*** of the **Passengers** that left the **United Kingdom** for **Places** out of **Europe** during the Month ending 31st March, 1905, and the Three Months ending 31st March, 1905, compared with the corresponding periods of the previous Year.

Nationality.	British Empire.						Foreign Countries.			Grand Total.	*Total for corresponding Period of 1904.*
	British North America.	Australia and New Zealand.	British South Africa.	India, including Ceylon.	Other British Colonies and Possessions.	Total.	United States.	Other Foreign Countries.	Total.		
	Month ending 31st March.										
English	7,974	501	1,256	214	309	10,254	5,668	480	6,148	16,402	*14,346*
Scotch	1,743	66	297	—	17	2,123	1,566	54	1,620	3,743	*3,012*
Irish	371	26	78	—	4	479	5,887	27	5,914	6,393	*2,389*
Total of British origin.	10,088	593	1,631	214	330	12,856	13,121	561	13,682	26,538	*19,747*
Foreigners	2,280	20	338	6	14	2,658	14,839	407	15,237	17,895	*15,028*
Nationalities not distinguished	—	—	—	142	182	324	89	271	360	684	*428*
Total	12,368	613	1,969	362	526	15,838	28,040	1,239	29,279	45,117	*35,203*
Total for corresponding period, 1904 ...	*12,383*	*667*	*2,161*	*378*	*476*	*16,005*	*18,378*	*820*	*19,198*	*35,203*	
	Three Months ending 31st March.										
English	12,550	2,131	4,149	768	1,110	20,708	11,757	1,400	13,157	33,865	*29,797*
Scotch	1,991	253	876	46	60	3,226	2,895	164	3,059	6,285	*5,585*
Irish	561	101	232	1	8	903	7,826	54	7,880	8,783	*4,032*
Total of British origin.	15,102	2,485	5,257	815	1,178	24,837	22,478	1,618	24,096	48,933	*39,354*
Foreigners	3,845	54	1,027	35	56	5,017	35,937	1,412	37,349	42,366	*27,491*
Nationalities not distinguished	6	—	—	460	474	940	267	738	1,005	1,945	*1,589*
Total	18,953	2,539	6,284	1,310	1,708	30,794	58,682	3,768	62,450	93,244	*68,434*
Total for corresponding period, 1904 ...	*17,464*	*2,522*	*7,520*	*1,385*	*1,797*	*30,688*	*35,144*	*2,602*	*37,746*	*68,434*	

* The destinations given are, in all cases, based on the ports at which the passengers contracted to land.

NOTE.—The above figures being made up at the earliest possible date after the close of each month, are subject to correction in the Annual Returns.

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Alien Immigration—March.

Statement showing the Number of **Alien** Passengers that **Arrived** from the Continent (whether in transit or not) at Ports in the **United Kingdom** during the Month and Three Months ending 31st March, 1905, compared with the corresponding period of the previous Year.

(Compiled from the Alien Lists received by the Customs under Act 6 Will. 4, c. 11, sec. 2.)

Ports of Arrival in United Kingdom.	CONTINENTAL PORTS OF EMBARKATION.															
	Hamburg, Bremen, and Bremerhaven.		Rotterdam, Amsterdam, and Antwerp.		Scandinavian Ports.		Finnish Ports.		Libau.		Dieppe.		Other Continental Ports.		Total.	
	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*
	(i.) Month ending 31st March.															
London ...	1,486	*1,105*	1,180	*679*	88	*136*	...	...	799	*443*	...	...	456	*129*	4,009	*2,493*
Grimsby ...	1,205	*675*	669	*3,583*	1,453	*762*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,327	*5,020*
Harwich ...	...	...	...	...	1,189	*916*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,189	*916*
Hull	352	*261*	469	*468*	3,339	*3,219*	1,958	*381*	581	*402*	...	...	72	*144*	6,771	*4,875*
Tyne Ports ...	28	*16*	24	*22*	1,032	*822*	...	*36*	...	...	...	...	9	*9*	1,093	*905*
Leith ...	37	*49*	66	*93*	38	*28*	...	...	...	...	...	...	33	*8*	174	*178*
Newhaven ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,404	*1,411*	...	...	1,404	*1,411*
Other Ports ..	34	*17*	382	*150*	162	*123*	...	...	1	*1*	1	...	1,568	*800*	2,148	*1,091*
Total ...	3,142	*2,123*	2,790	*4,995*	7,301	*6,006*	1,958	*417*	1,381	*846*	1,405	*1,411*	2,138	*1,090*	20,115	*16,888*
	(ii.) Three Months ending 31st March.															
London ...	4,844	*3,386*	3,602	*2,045*	257	*344*	...	...	1,593	*1,079*	...	...	1,111	*360*	11,407	*7,214*
Grimsby ...	2,834	*1,556*	1,883	*5,679*	2,820	*1,114*	...	...	...	...	...	*1*	3	...	7,540	*8,350*
Harwich ...	...	...	...	...	2,548	*1,766*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,548	*1,766*
Hull	783	*855*	1,139	*1,298*	7,612	*4,789*	6,133	*923*	1,100	*869*	...	...	100	*213*	16,867	*8,877*
Tyne Ports ...	82	*54*	74	*89*	2,143	*1,683*	...	*116*	...	...	...	...	21	*13*	2,320	*1,955*
Leith ...	71	*142*	254	*184*	103	*88*	...	...	...	...	...	...	83	*44*	511	*458*
Newhaven ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,906	*2,951*	...	...	2,906	*2,951*
Other Ports ..	60	*107*	704	*580*	428	*335*	...	*1*	1	*1*	1	...	2,994	*1,842*	4,188	*2,866*
Total ...	8,674	*6,100*	7,656	*9,875*	15,911	*10,059*	6,133	*1,040*	2,694	*1,939*	2,907	*2,952*	4,312	*2,472*	48,287	*34,437*

NOTES:—(i.) ALIENS IN TRANSIT.—The above totals include Aliens in transit, but the number of such Aliens cannot be stated, as particulars on this point are not required by law to be furnished. At some ports, however, it is the usual practice to state on the Alien Lists the number of Aliens known to be "*en route* to other countries." The total number so described in March, 1905, was 11,997, compared with 10,989 in March, 1904. In the three months ending March, 1905, the number was 26,602, compared with 18,664 in the three months ending March, 1904. These figures, however, are incomplete for the reasons stated, and many Aliens not described in the Aliens Lists as "*en route* to other countries," are in fact, known by special inquiry, to have been also in transit.

(ii.) SAILORS.—The number of sailors included with the Aliens not described in the Alien Lists as *en route* to places out of the United Kingdom in the month of March, 1905, was 1,290, and 1,042 in the same month of 1904; in the three months ending March, 1905, the number was 3,287, and in the same months of 1904 the number was 2,991.

(iii.) SCOPE OF THE RETURNS.—The ports from which Alien Lists are received are Aberdeen, Belfast, Blyth, Bristol, Cardiff, Dover, Dublin, Folkestone, Glasgow, Goole, Grangemouth, Granton, Greenock, Grimsby, Harwich, Hull, Kirkcaldy, Leith, Liverpool, London, Middlesbrough, Newcastle, Newhaven, Newport, North Shields, South Shields, Southampton, Sunderland, and West Hartlepool. The lists received from Dover, Folkestone, Harwich, Newhaven, and Southampton show only deck passengers, and persons who, after landing, proceed by train as third-class passengers.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of March, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s*. per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s*. 1*d*. for the first, and 5*s*. for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade on the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the March issue:—State of the Labour Market in February; Fatal Industrial Accidents in 1904; Spindles and Looms in Woollen and Worsted Factories; Relief of the Unemployed.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,333. Trade of Germany, 1904.

Recovery during first half of 1904, but gradual falling-off in latter part of year, notably in coal-mining and iron industries, due to unsatisfactory state of export trade in pig-iron and heavy iron goods.

Importance of manufacture of machinery and instruments, and of the electrical and chemical industries.

Progress of the Steel Works Syndicate and other combinations.

Analysis of imports and exports, important increases being noted.

Tables showing exports by countries of coal, coke, and lignite, and other mining and smelting products, iron and manufactures of iron, rails,

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Government Publications.

machinery, locomotives, machine tools.

Tables showing total imports and exports of principal articles.

State of labour market; movement in wages and hours; relations between capital and labour.

Account of agriculture and agricultural industries.

No. 3,334. Trade and Agriculture of Honduras, 1903-4.

Banana export continued to improve. No other noteworthy increase in exports, United States receiving three-quarters of the total.

Large advance in imports, those from Europe having doubled.

Articles in demand.

Progress of industries, manufacturing and agricultural.

Railway and road works.

Tables of imports and exports.

No. 3,335. Trade of Teng Yueh, 1904.

Steady development of transfrontier trade with Burma.

Need of improved communications.

Tables of principal articles of import and export, 1903 and 1904.

No. 3,336. Trade of Nantes, 1904.

Several shipbuilding yards closed owing to slackness of trade.

Progress of the Loire improvement work.

Lower prices of patent fuel.

Tables of principal articles of import and export, with notes as to character of trade.

No. 3,337. Trade of Nicaragua, 1903-4.

Returns of revenue, expenditure, and public debt.

Railways in operation and proposed.

Analysis of import and export trade, showing principal countries participating, among which the United States predominates.

Notes as to progress of coffee industry, banana trade, cattle raising, india rubber trade, lumber industry, &c.

INFORMATION ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

Information on the subjects named in the notice on the cover will be found in the following Board of Trade publications, obtainable in London upon application to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W., and their Sub-Agents, Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, at the prices named, viz.:—

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Government Publications.

1 "Board of Trade Journal," 3rd September, 1903, pp. 448–61, 5th May, 1904, p. 216, 4th August, 1904, p. 212, 10th November, 1904, pp. 265-6, 9th February, 1905, p. 259, 30th March, 1905, p. 596, and 6th April, 1905, pp. 25–6, at 1*d.* per number.
Differential Duties Return (Cd. 2,394) at 1*s.* 6*d.*

2, 3, 4, 5 Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom, 51st number (Cd. 2,192) at 1*s.* 3*d.* ... ... pp. 28/29; p. 12; pp. 176/191; pp. 57/157

5 Monthly Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation (25. II) at 1*s.*
Annual Statement of Trade, 1903.
Vol. I. (Cd. 2,043) at 7*s.* 1*d.* ... pp. 166 *et seq.*
Annual Statement of Trade, 1903.
Vol. II. (Cd. 2,081) at 5*s.* ... pp. 177/453

6, 7 Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics, 9th No. (Cd. 1,755) at 1*s.* ... pp. 176/182; pp. 34/72

7 Report on Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour (Cd. 2,199), at 7*d.*

8 Colonial Import Duties Return (Cd. 2,185) 2*s.* 1*d.*

9 Canada (Preferential Tariff for goods from the United Kingdom), No. 310, at ½*d.*

10 Statistical Abstract for the Colonial and other Possessions of the United Kingdom, 41st No. (Cd. 1,912) at 1*s.* 10*d.* ... ... pp. 38/243
Statistical Abstract for the British Empire, 1st No. (Cd. 2.395) at 6*d.* ... ... pp. 3/45
Trade (Colonies and the United Kingdom) ...No. 262, 2*d.*
Trade (Colonies and Foreign Countries) ... ...No. 110, 2*d.*

11 Foreign Import Duties Return (Cd. 2,340) at 2*s.*
New German Tariff as modified by Treaties (Cd. 2,414) at 1*s.* 10*d.*

12 Statistical Abstract for the principal and other foreign countries, 30th number (Cd. 2,202) at 1*s.* 6*d.* ... ... pp. 44/217

13 Trade between the United Kingdom and Germany (131) at 1½*d.*

14 Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry, and Commerce in the United Kingdom and some leading foreign countries (Cd. 1,199) at 5½*d.*

15 British and Foreign Trade and Industry. Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts (Cd. 1,761) at 3*s.* 6*d.*
British and Foreign Trade and Industry (Second Series). Second Series of Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts (Cd. 2,337) at 3*s.* 6*d.*

16 Naval Expenditure and Mercantile Marine (Great Britain, &c.) (284) at 1*d.*

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Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—	
	Austria-Hungary:	
3328	Trieste, 1904	1½*d.*
	Belgium:	
3327	Antwerp—Shipping ...1904	7½*d.*
3325	Belgium—Finances 1904–05	1*d.*
	Denmark:	
3324	Denmark (Supplementary) 1903	½*d.*
	France:	
3330	Brest 1904	1½*d.*
3336	Nantes 1904	1*d.*
	German Empire and Colonies:	
3333	Germany 1904	3*d.*
624	*Memorandum on German Cement*	½*d.*
630	*Technical Instruction in Germany: Supplementary and Miscellaneous* ...	4*d.*
	Italy:	
3320	Italy 1903	1½*d.*
3323	South Italy 1904	1½*d.*
632	*Silk Trade and Yield of Cocoons in Italy in 1904*...	1*d.*
	Netherlands:	
3331	Amsterdam 1904	1*d.*
	Russia:	
628	*Cultivation of Tea in the Caucasus*	½*d.*
	Servia:	
3329	Servia 1903	1½*d.*
	AFRICA—	
3321	Somaliland Protectorate... ... 1903–04	3*d.*
3322	Tangier and District ...	1½*d.*
	AMERICA, NORTH—	
	United States of America:	
3326	Baltimore 1904	1½*d.*
625	*Rice Industry in the United States*	2*d.*
626	*Iron and Steel Exhibits at the St. Louis Exhibition*...	2½*d.*
627	*United States Railways* ...	2½*d.*
631	*Coal Industry of the United States, 1903*	2½*d.*
	Mexico:	
3332	Mexico 1903	2½*d.*
	AMERICA, CENTRAL—	
3334	Honduras: Trade and Agriculture ... 1903–4	1*d.*
3337	Nicaragua ... 1903 & 1904	2*d.*
	ASIA—	
	China:	
3335	Teng Yueh 1904	½*d.*
629	*Cotton Mills of China* ...	2*d.*

Treaty Series.

The following numbers of the Treaty Series issued since the 1st January, 1905, may also be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

No.	———	Price.
	EUROPE— **France:**	
3	Agreements between the United Kingdom and France referring to Arbitration the question of the Grant of the French flag to Muscat Dhows...	½*d.*

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Government Publications.

No.	———	Price.
5	Convention between the United Kingdom and France respecting Newfoundland and West and Central Africa ...	1*d.*
6	Declaration between the United Kingdom and France respecting Egypt and Morocco	1½*d.*
7	Declaration between the United Kingdom and France concerning Siam, Madagascar, and the New Hebrides ...	½*d.*
	Norway:	
8	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Norway respecting telegraphic communication between the two countries...	½*d.*
	Russia:	
2	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Russia respecting Joint Stock Companies and other commercial, industrial, and financial associations	½*d.*
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COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1905, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

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—	Cyprus	2½*d.*
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29	Ceylon. Reports on the results of the Mineral Survey in 1903–4	2½*d.*
30	Pitcairn Island. Report by Mr. R. T. Simons	1*d.*

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Among the branches of work now carried on by the Imperial Institute at South Kensington are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which are exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Imperial Institute Bulletin," issued quarterly, contains information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

March, 1905.

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SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

March, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

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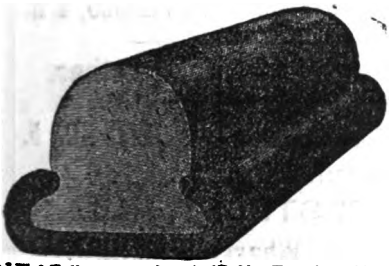

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Engineers' Tool Makers—
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Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow (Pig Iron, Coal, Coke, &c.) ...
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Plowright Bros., Ltd., Chesterfield ... ...
Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee
Russell, G., & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...
Simpson, Jas., & Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...
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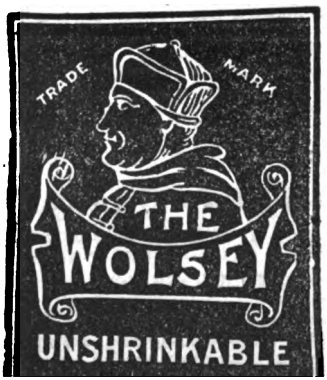

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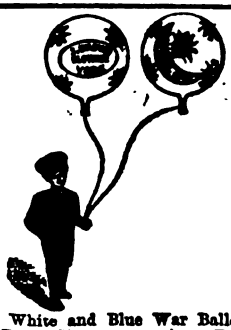

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COAL SHIPPING FACILITIES.—Coal is being shipped at these Docks by the ordinary Fixed, as well as Moveable Staiths; as also by the LEWIS-HUNTER PATENT COALING CRANES. The Cardiff Railway Company have the EXCLUSIVE use in the Bristol Channel of the LEWIS-HUNTER Coaling Cranes, which have proved by far the most satisfactory appliances for shipping Welsh Coal, with dispatch and the Least Possible Breakage. Colliery screened coal shipped by these cranes being equal to double screened coal shipped by ordinary Staiths, and thereby ensuring to the purchaser an INCREASED VALUE OF AT LEAST ONE SHILLING per ton over that of coal put on board by shipping appliances at other Docks, besides ensuring great SAVING IN BREAKAGE and uniformity of distribution throughout the cargo of any small coal that might exist; thus minimising any risk of spontaneous ignition from small coal in cargoes bound for distant ports. THREE OR MORE CRANES can be worked simultaneously into one vessel, and as much as 330 TONS have been shipped by one crane in an hour, and 4,773 TONS have been shipped into a vessel in 10 HOURS. Shippers attach so much importance to the advantages of these Cranes that they frequently elect to wait some time for a CRANE BERTH rather than have their coal shipped by the usual staiths.

The NEW SOUTH DOCK will be entirely equipped with these COALING CRANES, in deference to the wishes of so many shippers and buyers of CARDIFF COAL.

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RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION.—CARDIFF is the NATURAL PORT for BIRMINGHAM and the MIDLAND DISTRICT, as the London & North Western, Midland, and Great Western Railway Companies have direct communication from the Ship's Side.

DOCK CHARGES.—These are much below the average of our Great Ports. Vessels can generally procure an outward cargo to any PORT in the WORLD, thus giving the Bute Docks an advantage for Imports, as vessels do not require to change Ports.

TRADE.—The BUTE DOCKS were opened in the year 1839, and the IMPORTS and EXPORTS in 1903 were as follows:—Imports, 2,117,510 TONS; Exports, 7,684,087 TONS; Total, 9,801,597 TONS.

CATTLE IMPORTATION.—The BUTE DOCKS are the ONLY DOCKS in South Wales which have permission from the BOARD OF TRADE to land FOREIGN CATTLE. Excellent CATTLE LAIRS, SLAUGHTER HOUSES, and CHILL ROOMS are erected adjacent to the Wharf in the deepest-water dock, with Railways leading into them, having communication with all PARTS.

COLD STORAGE.—Ample Accommodation of the most modern description is provided for the storage of dead meat, poultry, provisions, vegetables, &c.

STATUS OF CARDIFF.—CARDIFF now occupies the position of being the FIRST PORT in the UNITED KINGDOM for shipping cleared to FOREIGN COUNTRIES and BRITISH POSSESSIONS and the PREMIER PORT in the WORLD for the SHIPMENT OF COAL.

NOTE.—The Bute Docks are the only Docks situated in the Town of Cardiff. Vessels using the Bute Docks thereby save their owners and Captains from loss of time in making journeys between the Vessels and the Merchants' and Brokers' Offices, Banks, Custom House, Post Office, &c., all of which Offices are adjacent to the Bute Docks.

The fullest information on all matters will be readily granted on application to the

CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY, BUTE DOCKS, CARDIFF.

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THE Board of Trade Journal

(With which is incorporated the "Imperial Institute Journal.")

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

APRIL 20, 1905.

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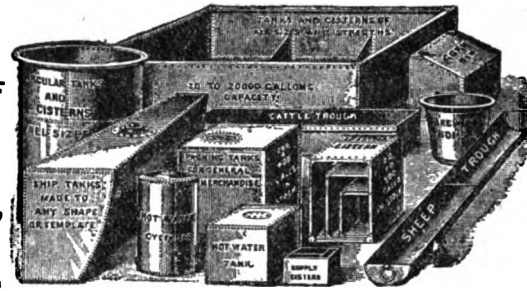

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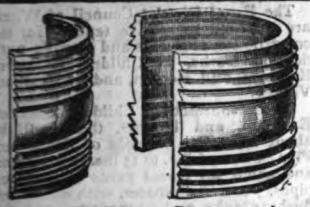

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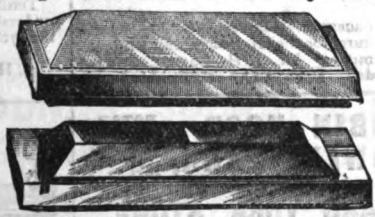

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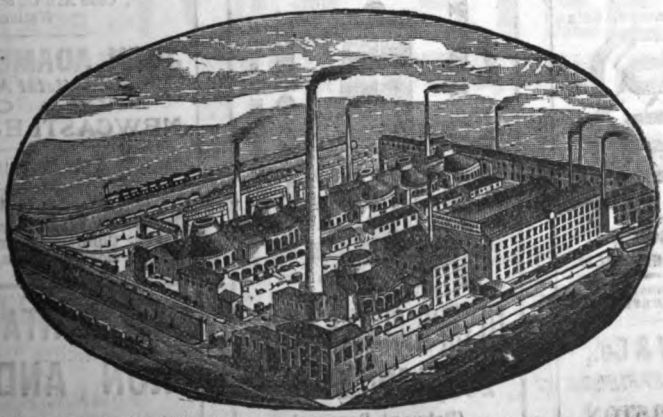

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Light Railways and Tramways Committee.

The above Committee invite tenders for the formation of a new road 60 ft. wide and about 2,160 ft. long, across the Red Ridge Estate in the Districts of Edmonton and Southgate in the County of Middlesex.

The proposed works are preparatory to the laying of a light railway and consist of excavations, fillings and ordinary sectional work, with new bridges across the New River and Salmon's Brook, and about

495 ft. of 18-in. Soil Sewer,
1,510 ft. of 15-in. Soil Sewer,
80 ft. of 15-in. Cast Iron Sewer,
807 ft. of 15-in Surface-Water Sewer,
1,185 ft. of 12-in. Surface-Water Sewer,
80 ft. of 12-in. Cast-Iron Water Sewer

with contingent manholes, gullies, &c.

The plans, specifications, conditions of contract may be seen, and schedules of prices obtained at my offices, on and after the 17th inst. on payment of 5 guineas, which will be returned on receipt of a *bond-fide* tender.

Tenders, sealed and endorsed "New Road—Red Ridge Estate," to be delivered to Sir Richard Nicholson, Clerk of the County Council, Middlesex Guildhall, Westminster, S.W., on or before May 10th, 1905.

H. T. WAKELAM, M.INST.C.E.
County Engineer.
Middlesex Guildhall, Westminster, S.W.
April 10th, 1905.

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CONTRACTS.

GLASGOW.—April 24th.—Steel and iron bridgework, for the Caledonian Railway Company. The Company's District Engineer, 16, Killermont Street. (Fee £2 2s., returnable.)

MANCHESTER.—April 26th.—Steel bridge, &c., for the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company. The Engineer's Office, Hunt's Bank, Manchester.

MILES PLATTING.—April 28th.—Connecting line, including steel bridge, for the Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Company. The Engineer's Office, Hunt's Bank, Manchester.

RHYDYMWYN (FLINTS).—April 28th.—New bridge, for the Holywell Rural District Council. Mr. Saml. Evans, County Surveyor, County Buildings, Mold. (Fee, £1 1s., returnable.)

BANBRIDGE (IRELAND).—May 9th.—Covered-in steel footbridge, for the Great Northern Railway Company (Ireland). Mr. W. H. Mills, Engineer-in-Chief, Amiens Street Terminus, Dublin. (Fee, 10s., non-returnable.)

BARROW-IN-FURNESS.—May 15th.—Steel road bridge, for the Corporation. Sir Benjamin Baker, 2, Queen Square Place, Queen Anne's Mansions, Westminster.

WORCESTER.—May 1st.—Bridge superstructure, for the Highways and Bridges Committee. Mr. J. H. Garrett, Bridge Warden. (Fee, £2 2s., returnable.)

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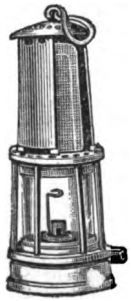

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The drawings and specification for each contract may be seen on and after Thursday, the 13th inst., between the hours of 11 a.m. and 4 p.m., and 11 a.m. and noon of Saturdays, at the office of the Engineer, Mr. Frank E. Priest, M.INST.C.E., 13, Harrington Street, Liverpool, from whom copies of the specification, forms of tender, and bill of quantities, may be obtained, on payment of two guineas for each contract.

Tenders must be delivered to the undersigned before 9 a.m. on Thursday, the 27th inst.

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54, Hamilton Street, Birkenhead,
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Coal Tables.—Statistical Tables and Report relating to Coal and Petroleum Production in the Principal Countries of the World, 1883—1903. [295/04.] Price 5½*d.*

Colonial Import Duties Return, 1904. [Cd. 2185/04.] Price 2*s.* 1*d.*

Companies (Winding Up). Thirteenth Annual Report. [311/1904.] Price 6*d.*

Emigration and Immigration.—Statistical Tables and Report, 1903. [145/04.] Price 8*d.*

Extracts from Diplomatic and Consular Reports. Coal. [343.] Price 8*d.*

Foreign Import Duties, 1904. [Cd. 2340/05.] Price 2*s.*

Index to Consular Reports, 1903. [Cd. 2148/04.] Price 1*s.*

Iron and Steel, 1903. Statistical Tables. [244/1904.] Price 3*d.*

Labour Department.—Ninth Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom. 1901–02. [Cd. 1755/03.] Price 1*s.*

Labour Department.—Changes in Wages and Hours of Labour. [Cd. 2199/04.] Price 7*d.*

Labour Department.—Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on the Strikes and Lock-outs of 1903, with Statistical Tables. [Cd. 2112/04.] Price 7*d.*

Life Assurance Companies' Return, 1904. [I./1905.] Price 3*s.*

Patent Office.—Report for the Year 1903. [178/04.] Price 5½*d.*

Railway Returns for the United Kingdom, 1903. [Cd. 2193/04.] Price 1*s.* 4*d.*

Shipping Casualties—Abstracts of Returns of Shipping Casualties on or near the Coasts of the United Kingdom, 1902-03 (with Charts and Appendices). [Cd. 2212/04.] Price 4*s.* 7*d.*

Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom. 1889-1903. [Cd. 2192/1904.] Price 1*s.* 3d.

Statistical Abstract for the British Empire, 1889-1903. [Cd. 2395.] Price 6*d.*

Statistical Abstract for the Colonies. 1889-1903. [Cd. 1912/04.] Price 1*s.* 10*d.*

Statistical Abstract for Foreign Countries. 1892 to 1901-02. [Cd. 2202/04.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

Statistical Tables relating to British Colonies, Possessions, and Protectorates. Part XXVII. 1902. [Cd. 2184/04.] Price 7*s.*

Tables showing the Progress of Merchant Shipping in the United Kingdom and the principal maritime countries, 1903. [294/1904.] Price 9*d.*

Tramways and Light Railways (Street and Road) Return. [310/05.] Price 6*d.*

II.—MONTHLY RETURNS:—

Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for each month during the Year. March, 1905. [25-II/05.] Price 1*s.*

Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions. [103/1905.] Price 4½*d.*

III.—OCCASIONAL RETURNS:—

Agricultural Products (Exportation). United Kingdom and Continental Countries. [313.] Price 1*d.*

British and Foreign Trade and Industry Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts. [Cd. 1761/1903.] Price 8*s.* 6*d.*

British and Foreign Trade and Industry. Second Series of Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts. [Cd. 2337.] Price 3*s.* 6*d.*

British Colonies (Duties on Imports). No. 299/03. Price ½*d.*

Canada (Preferential Tariff for Goods from the United Kingdom). 310/03. Price ½*d.*

Certificates of Origin. Memorandum. [Cd. 1446/03.] Price 3*d.*

Commercial Mission to South Africa.—Report from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [Cd. 1844/03.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

Commercial Mission to Persia.—Reports from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [Cd. 2146.] Price 1*s.* 3*d.* [Cd. 2281.] Price 1½*d.*

Commercial Travellers. Memorandum. [Cd. 1961.] Price 3*d.*

Conciliation (Trades Disputes) Act, 1896. Fourth Report. [Cd. 1846/03.] Price 6*d.*

Continental Free Ports. Return. 344. Price 2½*d.*

Exports from the United Kingdom of Woollen and Cotton Goods and Cutlery in 1877, 1882, 1887, &c., and 1902. [327/03.] Price ½*d.*

Food Supplies (Imported) Return. 179/03.] Price 4½*d.*

German Tariff (New) as modified by Treaties. [Cd. 2414.] Price 1*s.* 10*d.*

Imports and Exports of United Kingdom by Groups of Countries. [214/1903.] Price ½*d.*

Labour Department.—Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on Trade Unions in 1901, with Comparative Statistics. [Cd. 1348/02.] Price 11½*d.*

Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry and Commerce of the United Kingdom and some leading Foreign Countries. [Cd. 1199/1902.] Price 5½*d.*

Preferential Trade Return, showing the advantages granted to other countries in States where British trade does not enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment. [329/1903.] Price 1½*d.*

Report to the Board of Trade by the Advisory Committee on Commercial Intelligence, with reference to their Proceedings. [Cd. 2,044/04.] Price 4½*d.*

Trade and Shipping of Africa, with Maps and Statistical Tables. [C. 9223/99.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

Trade and Shipping of South-East Asia, with Map and Statistical Tables. [Cd. 324/01.] Price 1*s.* 0½*d.*

Trade between the United Kingdom, Canada and Germany. Return. [328/1903.] Price 4*d.*

Trade of the United Kingdom with Germany. [131.] Price 1½*d.*

Trade of British Colonies with Foreign Countries. [110/1904.] Price 2*d.*

Trade (Colonies and United Kingdom). Return. [262/03.] Price 2*d.*

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APRIL 20TH, 1905.

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLIX.] April 20, 1905. [No. 438

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 141.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where there are at present on view, among other exhibits, samples of tobacco grown in Jamaica, and samples of cotton grown within the Empire, viz., eleven received from the British Cotton Growing Association, three from the West India Committee, and eleven from the Imperial Institute.

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 142.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

Spans, Firebox Plates, Bearing Springs, and Brass Boiler Tubes.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing to supply—

1. 12, 20, 40 and 60 feet spans.
2. 100 feet spans,
3. Copper firebox plates.
4. Engine and tender bearing springs.
5. Brass boiler tubes.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

The conditions of contract may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.), or may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W. Tenders are to be delivered at the latter office by 2 p.m. on Wednesday, the 26th April, 1905, after which time no tender will be received.

Steel Material and Tools.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of:—

1. Steel material (joists, channels, bulb-tees &c.),
2. Miscellaneous tools,

as per specifications to be seen at the Company's offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary marked "Tender for Steel Material" or as the case may be, not later than noon, on Wednesday the 3rd May.

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiry.—A British firm of manufacturers, already shipping with considerable success to the Canadian market, are desirous of being represented in the Dominion for the sale, on commission, of all kinds of druggist and speciality bottles, in white, blue, green, amber, &c. Only agents with good connection, established reputation and first-class references, would be considered.

Canadian Enquiry.—A Canadian firm having a representative in England at the present time, desire to get into communication with users of brush handles, which they manufacture on a large scale.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

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Openings for British Trade.

EGYPT.

Stores, Clothing, &c.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" of 8th April announces that tenders will be received at the Head Quarters of the Coast Guard Administration, Cairo, up to noon on the 15th June, 1905, for the supply of general stores, clothing, wood, &c., in such quantities as may be required by the Administration for a period of one year.

The specifications and conditions of contract can be seen and samples inspected at the Coast Guard Magazine, Arsenal, Alexandria, between the hours of 9 a.m. and noon, any day except Sundays and general holidays.

Tenders must be submitted on the printed form provided for the purpose, which can be obtained at the Magazine of the Administration, and must be accompanied by stamped paper and addressed: The Director-General, Coast Guard Administration, Cairo, and marked "Tenders for the supply of . . . ."

Tenderers must be persons residing in Egypt (*Alexandria*). As a guarantee of good faith, each tender must be accompanied by a guarantee from a local bank to the amount of 10 per cent. on the total value of the offer.

All tenders must be in Egyptian money (viz., 975 millièmes to the £ sterling) and in metric weights and measures, as laid down in the printed specification. The price must be for free delivery at the Coast Guard Magazine, Arsenal, Alexandria. Only stores imported from abroad with a declaration on the bill of lading that they are for the use of the Coast Guard Administration, will be exempted from the 8 per cent. Customs dues.

No tender offered to this Administration, in the name of more than one person or a firm, will be accepted unless accompanied by a certified copy of the act of association. This act must indicate clearly the name, nationality, and residence of each partner of the firm, and powers as regards encashments, &c., of each individual member of it.

Unless the above formalities are complied with, tenders will not be considered.

The Administration reserve the right to accept the whole or part of, but do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

NORWAY.

Steel Plates.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul-General at Christiania (Viscount Melville) that tenders are invited by the Norwegian State Railway Authorities for the supply of 49,300 (about 138 tons) steel plates ("Underlagsplade").

British firms desiring to tender should issue instructions to this

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Openings for British Trade.

effect to their agents in Norway, from whom tenders must be received not later than 3 p.m. on the 5th May, 1905, at the Railway Manager's Offices in Christiania.

A copy of the special conditions of tender, and of the general regulations for tendering (both in Norwegian), together with a drawing of the plates required, may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Apart from the usual Customs duties a preference of from 10 to 15 per cent. is given to Norwegian manufacturers.

BELGIUM.

Building Construction.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Mr. E. C. Hertslet) that the municipal authorities of that city are calling for tenders for the supply of material for, and the construction of, a public exhibition hall to be erected in the Place de Meir, one of the principal thoroughfares of Antwerp. The adjudication will take place on the 23rd May, and a deposit of 20,000 frs. (800*l.*) will be required to qualify any tender.

The specifications and plans of the proposed structure may be obtained from the Hôtel de Ville, Antwerp, at a cost of 6 frs. (about 4*s.* 10*d.*).

All tenders should be sent in sealed registered envelopes, addressed to the Burgomaster, and should reach the Hôtel de Ville not later than the 22nd May.

A copy of the specification may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Weighbridges.

The "Bulletin Commercial" of 15th April announces that the Belgian State Railways invite tenders for the supply, in two separate lots, of two weighbridges for locomotives to be delivered within twenty weeks. A deposit of 1,000 fr. (about 40*l.*) for each lot is required to qualify any tender. Tenders will be opened on the 3rd May, at the "Bourse de Commerce," Brussels. Particulars (*avis spécial No.* 59 *de* 1905) may be obtained from "M. De Rudder, Administrateur de Voies et Travaux, 11 Rue de Louvain, Brussels.

Railway Construction.

The same issue of the "Bulletin" announces that the "Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux" invite tenders, which will be opened on 3rd May, for the construction of a section of the

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Openings for British Trade.

Poulseur-Sprimont-Trooz line, at the estimated cost of 97,647 fr. (about 3,905*l.*). Tenders, in registered envelopes, addressed to "M. le Directeur Géneral, Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux, 14 rue de la Science, Brussels," must be posted not later than the 2nd May. A deposit of 10,000 fr. (about 400*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Specifications (price 1 fr.) may be obtained from the above-mentioned address, where plans may also be inspected.

SPAIN.

Railway Construction and Plant.

With reference to the notice on p. 247 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 11th August, 1904, notifying the appointment of a special technical commission to designate those secondary railways in Spain, the construction of which may be deemed advisable, attention is directed to the fact that the "Gaceta de Madrid" of 4th April contains a list of such railways drawn up by this commission.

Port Works.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 14th April contains a Royal Order, authorising the Almeria Port Works Board to raise a loan of 5,000,000 pesetas (about 149,924*l.*) for the purpose of carrying out improvement works at that port.

Transhipment Cars for Platform Cranes.

The same issue of the "Gaceta" contains a notice calling for tenders, which will be opened at noon on the 1st May, for the supply and installation in the sheds of the Barceloneta wharf of two transhipment cars for platform cranes, no purchase having resulted from the call for tenders noted on p. 152 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 26th January. A deposit of 1,500 pesetas (about 45*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Conditions of contract and plans may be inspected at the offices of the Secretary of the Port Administration, Casa Lonja, Barcelona.

N.B.—It is notified from H.M. Embassy at Madrid that a foreigner, when entering into contracts for the performance of public works in Spain, must renounce by public act all rights to which he might be entitled by virtue of the law of his own country in so far as his contract is concerned, and accept any administrative decisions that may be issued respecting questions arising from that contract.

In entering into such contracts a local agent is a practical necessity.

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

ITALY.

Purchase for Export of Tobacco Extract.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from H.M. Embassy at Rome copies of the conditions of tender and other documents relative to the sale of the extract of tobacco produced by the Italian Tobacco Monopoly.

Tenders are invited for the purchase, for export, of not less than 2,500 and not more than 3,500 quintals of tobacco juice produced in the Government factories. The adjudication is fixed for 15th June, a deposit of 90,000 lire (about 3,600*l.*) being required to qualify any tender.

Copies of the conditions of contract, in French and English, may be obtained (until the supply is exhausted) on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

N.B.—It should be noted that the importation of any extract, essence, or other concentration of tobacco, or any admixture of the same, except in transit, or to be warehoused for exportation only, is prohibited in the United Kingdom.

ARGENTINA.

Galvanised Wire.

The "Boletin Oficial" of Argentina of 14th March, contains a Decree authorising the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs to purchase 100 tons of galvanised wire, through the Argentine Legation in London; the sum of 11,185 pesos (about 978*l.*), national currency, being assigned for that purpose.

ECUADOR.

Railway Construction.

According to the New York "Journal of Commerce" an announcement has been made by the Ecuadorian Legation in New York that their Government have decided to build a railway from Ambato, a point on the projected line of the Guayaquil and Quito Railway, to the Curarey River, a distance of about 100 miles. The Curarey River is a branch of the Amazon, emptying into that river near Iquitos, Peru, which is the head of ocean navigation. The district is stated to be rich in rubber, which is now exported by way of the Amazon Valley to the United States and Europe.

The railway is being built for the purpose of enabling that district to export its rubber and other products by way of Guayaquil. It is expected to have the entire route surveyed within a year, by which time the Guayaquil and Quito Railway will have been completed to Ambato, the initial point of the new line. The route lies almost entirely east of the Andes, Ambato being in the heart of that range at an elevation of about 7,000 ft.

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Openings for British Trade.

URUGUAY.

Steam Freezing Lighter.

On p. 131 will be found a notice giving particulars of the first consignment of frozen meat from Uruguay, and the necessity of a steam freezing lighter for the business at the port of Monte Video.

COREA.

Distillery Plant.

The "Japan Weekly Mail" (Yokohama) announces that, with the object of meeting the demand for alcohol in Manchuria and Corea, which is reported to be very large, some prominent saké brewers in Tokyo and Osaka intend to establish an alcohol distillery at Seoul with a capital of two million yen. It is said by the "Nichi Nichi" that the Corean court has promised to subscribe for shares in the proposed distillery.

Yen = 2*s.* 0½*d.*

EXHIBITION.

CHILE.

Commercial Museum in Santiago.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received, from the "Sociedad de Fomento Fabril," Santiago, a copy of the first catalogue of the permanent commercial museum established in Santiago (see p. 345 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 24th November, 1904), from which the following particulars are extracted:—

Space may be obtained in the museum on applying to the Director, "Señor J. Tadeo Laso, Exposición Permanente y Museo Industrial de la Sociedad de Fomento Fabril, Santiago," giving the following particulars:—(1) space wanted; (2) name and commercial standing of exhibitor; (3) domicile; (4) name and address of agent in Chile; (5) trade mark, mentioning whether it has been registered in Chile; (6) all details as to his goods which the exhibitor deems necessary.

The administration of the museum provide exhibitors with the needful stands and cases; but they do not undertake to furnish special installations nor to engage in works outside the general scheme of the exhibition. Exhibitors who desire special installations, at their own cost, should forward plans with their application.

According to a despatch on this subject from the Belgian Minister in Chile, published in the "Bulletin Commercial" of 8th April, foreign manufacturers enjoy the same advantages as natives of Chile. No charge is made for exhibiting goods, and exhibits are exempt from Customs duties.

The catalogue, which contains a copy of the form of application for space, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Mexico.—In his recent report on the trade of Mexico for the year 1903 (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,332), Mr. Biorklund, Clerk to H.M. Legation at Mexico City, writes:—

"There are quite a number of articles which are made in the United Kingdom, which for some reason or another have decreased in importance, or which, through an oversight on the part of the manufacturers and exporters, other nations have been allowed to enter the field where once they had control. With the development of the country, the opening up of new districts, both agricultural and mining, the building of the port works and other public works, the construction of railways, the sanitation of many of the large towns of the Republic, the starting of new industries, &c., an ample field is open for all kinds of articles which in former years were never even thought of for this market. Electricity, too, a power which under the present conditions seems destined to take the place of steam and water, supplies motive power in districts which last century were still considered to be too far from any centre to be of any importance either for commercial or industrial purposes. This furnishes a sufficient proof that commerce in general is in a more flourishing condition than formerly; and foreign capital has found its way into the country in almost every branch of industry. . . . .

"A careful examination of the country and people by competent persons is essential for ascertaining the wants and requirements of the country and its inhabitants. . . . . As far back as 1887 Mr. Carden, who was then Her Majesty's Consul in Mexico, pointed out very carefully what were the most serious drawbacks to the promotion and increase of British trade in Mexico, and made some suggestions for retaining a certain amount of the trade (Annual Series No. 202); while in the report for 1892 (Annual Series No. 1,301) he again mentioned the same subject, and advocated the establishment of some kind of co-operative store. This suggestion was, in a measure, acted upon in regard to groceries, &c., but all the grocery stores were entirely in the hands of Spaniards, who, owing to their business methods, looked very unfavourably upon this innovation, and the result was that the scheme was a failure; the shares were all bought up by one or two of the shareholders and a new establishment (Canadian) was started in its place, and this establishment is now doing a very flourishing business, having branch houses in several of the large cities of the country. In 1896, when reporting on the trade of Mexico for 1895 (Annual Series, No. 1827), Mr. Carden put forward the idea of the association of several manufacturing firms for the establishment of a joint agency or store in Mexico for the sale of their goods. . . . .

"Advertising is acknowledged as a favourable method for the promotion of business . . if those advertisements and business circulars were to be printed correctly and in the language of the country to which they are sent, and were to contain the necessary information as to sizes and weights, &c. . . . This question of the weights and measures is unquestionably one of great im-

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portance to merchants and importers in such countries, like Mexico, where the import duties are collected on the standard (metric) of weight, and where all operations are also conducted on that same basis. In many of the American catalogues the prices and discounts are also given, so that the actual cost of an article can be calculated before it is ordered. This fact in many cases has been the means of securing orders which, if the data had not been to hand, would probably never have been given by the prospective purchaser."

TRADE OF CAPE COLONY IN 1904.

With reference to the statement published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 30th March, p. 615, the following table, showing the value of the imports and exports (excluding specie) of Cape Colony, by countries, in 1904, with comparative figures for the preceding year, based on figures furnished to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade by their Correspondent at Port Elizabeth (Mr. J. S. Neave), amplifies and completes the information previously published:—

From and To—	Imports (including Government articles).		Exports (including re-exports).	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	21,510,000	14,019,000	21,724,000	25,268,000
British Possessions—				
British India	317,000	195,000	1,000	9,000
Mauritius	273,000	429,000	10,000	15,000
Natal	498,000	443,000	186,000	143,000
Canada	245,000	224,000	2,000	1,000
Australia	841,000	1,276,000	5,000	8,000
New Zealand	211,000	38,000	*	*
States over the border ...	8,000	102,000	3,000	10,000
Other British Possessions ...	31,000	18,000	2,000	1,000
Total British Possessions £	2,424,000	2,725,000	209,000	187,000
Foreign Countries—				
Belgium	510,000	324,000	96,000	192,000
France	173,000	95,000	8,000	4,000
Germany	1,495,000	771,000	141,000	186,000
German West Africa ...	6,000	3,000	25,000	583,000
Holland	261,000	206,000	2,000	1,000
Norway	209,000	102,000	—	*
Sweden	451,000	268,000	*	*
Argentine Republic	1,815,000	914,000	*	*
Brazil	178,000	137,000	—	—
Chile	—	57,000	—	—
United States of America ...	4,501,000	2,075,000	30,000	43,000
Other foreign countries ...	229,000	128,000	11,000	14,000
Exports shipped as stores ...	—	—	256,000	91,000
Total foreign countries £	9,828,000	5,080,000	569,000	1,114,000
Grand total ... £	33,762,000	21,824,000	22,502,000	26,569,000

* Less than £500.

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TRADE OF EUROPEAN RUSSIA IN 1904.

The following tables, showing the quantities of some of the principal imports and exports of European Russia during 1904, with comparative figures for the preceding year, are based on figures published in the official "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" (St. Petersburg):—

Imports.

Principal Articles.	1903.	1904.
	Pouds.	Pouds.
Tea of all kinds	1,440,000	1,627,000
" " *viâ* Irkutsk	536,000	267,000
Herrings and dried and smoked fish	9,830,000	11,233,000
Coal and wood charcoal	182,179,000	192,676,000
Coke...	30,208,000	35,606,000
Manganese and other cast iron	342,000	555,000
Bar and assorted iron, &c.	635,000	589,000
Sheet iron to 25 Birmingham gauge	740,000	580,000
" " over 25 Birmingham gauge	1,343,000	1,183,000
Bar and assorted steel in billets and scrap steel ...	571,000	628,000
Sheet steel of all kinds to 25 Birmingham gauge ...	122,000	103,000
" " over 25 Birmingham gauge...	78,000	100,000
Machinery of cast iron, iron, steel, &c....	3,194,000	3,213,000
Agricultural machines and implements, not specially named	1,651,000	1,277,000
Threshing engines and steam ploughs	702,000	550,000
Parts of machines, &c., of iron, steel and cast iron ...	767,000	797,000
Raw cotton...	12,837,000	10,886,000
" " by Asiatic frontiers...	1,218,000	1,120,000
Wool, uncombed, undyed...	1,251,000	832,000
" combed, undyed	181,000	86,000
" spun, undyed	93,000	54,000
" twisted, undyed	140,000	82,000

Exports.

Principal Articles.	1903.	1904.
	Pouds.	Pouds.
Butter	2,462,000	2,392,000
Logs, pine and fir	60,432,000	58,278,000
Beams, girders, rafters, &c.	26,622,000	18,001,000
Deals (including battens, sleepers, &c.)	119,780,000	114,518,000
Hides and skins	906,000	1,146,000
Wool, unspun, unwashed...	616,000	769,000
" " washed	182,000	194,000
Light naphtha illuminating oils	81,764,000	83,482,000
Ditto, *viâ* Baku	1,190,000	1,340,000
Ditto, to Finland	1,348,000	1,686,000
Naphtha lubricating oils, unpurified	1,629,000	4,171,000
Ditto, to Finland	26,000	20,000
Naphtha lubricating oils, purified	11,762,000	9,355,000
Ditto, to Finland	36,000	34,000
	Number.	Number.
Eggs...	2,684,258,000	2,717,320,000

NOTE.—1,000 pouds = 16·121 tons.

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MINERAL PRODUCTION OF GERMANY IN 1904.

According to an advance statement of the Imperial Statistical Bureau showing the mineral and metallurgical production of the German Empire for the year 1904, published in the "Deutscher Reichs-Anzeiger" of the 28th March, the output of coal in that year was as follows, the corresponding figures for 1903 being added for purposes of comparison:—

—	1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Metric tons.	Thousand Marks.	Metric tons.	Thousand Marks.
Coal...	116,637,765	1,005,153	120,815,503	1,034,000
Lignite	45,819,488	107,412	48,632,769	111,999
Total	162,457,253	1,112,565	169,448,272	1,145,999

These figures show that in 1904, there was an increase of 3·5 per cent. in the output of coal, and of 6·1 per cent. in that of lignite.

The following table shows the quantity and value of other minerals and salts produced in the years 1903 and 1904:—

—	1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Metric tons.	Thousand Marks.	Metric tons.	Thousand Marks.
Iron ore	21,230,650	74,235	22,047,297	76,668
Zinc ore	682,853	33,058	715,732	39,479
Lead ore	165,991	14,084	164,440	14,706
Copper ore...	772,695	20,449	798,214	21,731
Silver and gold ore ...	11,467	1,245	10,405	1,206
Cobalt, nickel and bismuth ores	14,607	819	14,016	925
Manganese ore	47,994	520	52,886	591
Pyrites	170,867	1,319	174,782	1,336
Asphalt	87,454	812	91,786	891
Petroleum	60,743	4,184	89,606	5,804
Rock-salt	1,095,541	5,056	1,079,868	5,001
Kainit	1,557,243	21,883	1,905.893	26,565
Other potash salts... ...	2,073,720	20,981	2,179,471	21,295

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Mineral Production of Germany in 1904.

The products of reduction works are stated to be as follows:—

—	1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Metric tons.	Thousand Marks.	Metric tons.	Thousand Marks.
Copper ingots	31,214	37,841	30,262	36,304
Zinc	182,548	73,921	193,058	84,650
Lead, pigs, bars, &c. ...	145,319	33,490	137,580	32,546
Litharge	4,428	1,105	4,332	1,117
Pig-iron	10,017,901	525,007	10,058,273	520,647

The production of refined salt, and of various salts, in refined or commercial form, is shown in the following table:—

—	1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Metric tons.	Thousand Marks.	Metric tons.	Thousand Marks.
Salt	598,394	14,184	621,064	14,697
Potassium chloride ...	280,248	34,140	279,670	33,328
Magnesium chloride ...	22,990	434	25,730	539
Glauber salts	81,196	2,080	73,264	1,896
Potassium sulphate ...	36,674	5,838	43,714	6,955
Potassium magnesium sulphate	23.631	1,854	29,232	2,290
Magnesium sulphate ...	37,844	629	39,412	607

INTERNATIONAL RAILWAY CONGRESS.

His Majesty's Government have nominated—

Sir Francis Mowatt, G.C.B., I.S.O.,
Sir Francis Hopwood, K.C.B., C.M.G.,
Lieut.-Colonel H. A. Yorke, R.E., C.B.,
Mr. W. H. Macnamara, and
Mr. W. M. Acworth,

as delegates to represent Great Britain at the forthcoming International Railway Congress at Washington.

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

BRITISH INDIA.

Sugar Certificates. With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 502 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 16th March last, notifying, in general terms, that the declarations in Forms "G" and "H" as prescribed by the Indian regulations of 15th August, 1904, for the identification of sugar imported into India, may be made either by the exporter or shipper, the Board of Trade have now received, through the India Office, a copy of a Notification (No. 523 of 1905) which was issued by the Indian Department of Commerce and Industry on 10th March last, and which gives the full text of the amended Forms "G" and "H" as follows:—

Form G.

Declaration by the exporter or shipper at a foreign port as to the origin of sugar produced in the country from which it was exported either to the United Kingdom or direct to India.

[Rule 7, sub-head (i).]

I, A. B..... declare that the consignment of..... cwt. of beet/cane sugar, of.....degrees of polarization, in..... bags, marked and addressed as follows:..... and shipped on....., 190..., per steamer.....consigned to Messrs..... & Co., of (*a*).....was produced in (*b*).....

Signature of the exporter or shipper.

Certified that I believe the above declaration to be true.

Signature of Consul at foreign port of exportation.

(*a*) Insert name of port in the United Kingdom/India.
(*b*) Insert name of country of export.

Form H.

Declaration by the exporter or shipper at a foreign port as to the origin of sugar produced elsewhere than in the country of export.

[Rule 7, sub-head (ii).]

I, A. B..... declare that the consignment of..... cwt. of beet/cane sugar, of.....degrees of polarization, in..... bags marked and addressed as follows:..... and shipped on....., 190..., per steamer....., consigned to Messrs..... & Co., of (*a*).....was produced in (*b*).....and exported thence in bond on the.....for transit through (*c*).....to (*d*)..... for shipment to India.

(*a*) Insert name of port in the United Kingdom/India.
(*b*) Insert country of production.
(*c*) Insert name of country.
(*d*) Insert port of shipment.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

I produce and annex to this declaration the bills of lading and other relevant documents attested by the Customs and other officials at (*e*).....and at (*f*).....

Signature of the exporter or shipper.

Certified that I have examined the documents mentioned and believe the foregoing declaration to be true.

Signature of Consul at foreign port of exportation.

(*e*) Insert name of place whence the sugar was exported in transit.
(*f*) Insert port of shipment.

BRITISH INDIA—JAPAN.

Commercial Convention.

A Convention between the United Kingdom and Japan respecting commercial relations between Japan and India was signed at Tokio on the 29th August last, and has now been ratified.

The Convention, which was to come into force immediately after the exchange of ratifications, provides for the mutual extension to the produce and manufactures of either country of "the lowest Customs duties applicable to similar products of any other foreign origin," and the privileges and engagements of the Convention are to be extended to such of the Indian Native States as may be entitled to be placed on the same footing as British India.

The Convention is to remain in force until the expiration of six months from the day on which one of the High Contracting Parties shall have announced its intention of terminating it.

NEW ZEALAND.

Customs Decisions.

A copy of the "New Zealand Gazette" for 2nd February last, has been received containing Customs decisions (Commissioner's Order No. 765) relating to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into New Zealand.

The following are the principal decisions given:—

Articles and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
Brass sheet cut into strips and polished on one side	Free.
Cement composed of sodium-silicate and powdered glass—	
As n.o.e.	Free.
Copper tanks specially constructed for incubators—	
As machinery for agricultural purposes	Free.
Copper tubing, flexible—	
As copper manufactures, n.o.e.	20 % *ad val.*
Fans, exhaust and blast—	
As blowers	Free.
Fountains, also cisterns for dispensing aerated waters—	
As manufactures of metal, n.o.e.	20 % *ad val.*
Embroidery hoops—	
As fancy goods	20 % "
Motor-vehicles: gear for transmission of power from oil-engine to wheels of (parts of motor-car)—	
As carriages	20 % "
Soda arsenate for making insecticide—	
As chemicals, n.o.e.	15 % "

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

PROTECTORATE OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA.

Customs Tariff Amendment.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 79 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 13th October last, relating to the rates of duty imposed under the Customs Tariff Proclamation, No. 9 of 1904, on goods imported into the Protectorate of Southern Nigeria, the Board of Trade have now received a copy of a further Customs Tariff Proclamation (No. 3 of 1905), which amends, with effect from 1st March, 1905, the foregoing Proclamation of 1904.

The following is a statement of the amendments in the rates of duty effected by the new Proclamation:—

Articles.	Import duties.	
	Old rates.	New rates.
	s. d.	s. d.
Brandy, gin, rum liqueurs, perfumed, medicated and miscellaneous spirits or strong waters, not being sweetened or mixed so that the degree of strength cannot be ascertained by Syke's hydrometer—		
For every Imperial gallon not exceeding the strength of proof by such hydrometer	3 0	—
[And so in proportion for any greater strength than the strength of proof]		
For every Imperial gallon not exceeding the strength of 12½ deg. under proof by such hydrometer	—	3 6
And for every degree or part of a degree in excess of 12½ degrees under proof by such hydrometer— An additional duty ... Per Imperial gall.	—	0 0½
Note.—The present Proclamation provides "that it shall be lawful for the High Commissioner by Order to provide that, from and after a date being not less than three months from the date of the said Order, the strength of the said spirits shall be ascertained by Tralles' hydrometer in place of a Syke's hydrometer, as aforesaid—a strength of 50 per cent. by the said Tralles' hydrometer being considered as an equivalent to a strength of 12½ degrees under proof by the said Syke's hydrometer, and other strengths in proportion—and to give all directions necessary and consequential thereto."		
Brandy, gin, rum, perfumed, medicated and miscellaneous spirits, or strong waters, and on any compound containing spirits, being sweetened or mixed with any article so that the degree of strength cannot be ascertained as aforesaid Per Imperial gall.	3 0	4 0
All goods imported from Lagos or Northern Nigeria—		
By inland navigation or overland carriage ...	Free	—
„ all routes	—	Free
Educational apparatus—		
The present Proclamation removes the proviso that such apparatus, when imported free of duty, is to be "certified by the head of the establishment to be solely intended for educational purposes."		

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

PROTECTORATE OF SOUTHERN NIGERIA—*continued.*

Articles.	Import duties. Old rates.	Import duties. New rates.
	s. d.	s. d.
Oil of any kind imported *bonâ-fide* for use as a motor power for engines or machinery of any kind and not for lighting purposes, and subject to any regulations in that behalf made by the High Commissioner	If kerosene, 2*d.* per gall. Other kinds 10 % *ad val.*	Free
Patterns, samples and show cards	Free	—
Patterns, samples, show cards, and advertisements passed as such by the Collector of Customs, and subject to any regulations in that behalf made by the High Commissioner	—	Free
Produce—products, natural and mineral of Lagos and Northern Nigeria	Free	—
Bonâ-fide produce, natural and mineral products of West Africa	—	Free

BRITISH GUIANA.

Consumption Duties on Spirits and Matches, 1905–6.

A copy of "The Official Gazette of British Guiana" for 18th March last has been received, containing the "Tax Ordinance, 1905" (No. 5 of 1905), which provides for the imposition of certain taxes to defray, in part, the public expenditure of the Colony of British Guiana, during the financial year ended 31st March, 1906.

The present Ordinance imposes *inter alia*, the following duties on rum and other spirits and matches sold for consumption in the Colony:—

Articles.		Rate of Duty. Dols.	Cts.
Rum, the produce of the Colony or not... ...per proof gall.		2	15
If sold to a holder of a retail spirit license for the purpose of being sold in retail by him under license in quantities of not more than one quart (except by special permit of a Commissary of Taxation) ...	"	0	15
If for use exclusively in any laboratory or for the preservation of specimens of natural history for any public museum ...	"	Free.	
Compounds manufactured under the Bitters and Cordials Ordinance, 1890 (except medicinal preparations containing spirits)	"	2	15
Compounds passed as medicinal preparations containing spirits)	"	Same as import duty leviable at the time.	
All other spirits (manufactured in the Colony).	"	2	15
Matches (manufactured in the Colony)— Per case containing 10 gross of boxes of not more than 100 matches in each		3	50

Note.—The above duties on rum are in addition to those leviable on importation into the Colony.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

The above Ordinance further provides for the continuation, during 1905-6, of various taxes previously in force, viz.:—the acreage tax, tonnage and light dues, stamp and license duties, and storage rents, and it can be seen by persons interested on application at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

EGYPT.

Valuation Tariff for Iron and Steel Manufactures.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 29th March contains the following revised Valuation Tariff for use in assessing import duties on imported iron and steel manufactures. This Tariff came into force on the 1st April, and will remain in operation until the 30th September, 1905, or until denunciation:—

Articles.	Valuation per kilog.*	
	Former.	New.
	Millièmes.†	Millièmes.†
Iron and steel plates, ordinary, without mark‡, ⅛ inch thick and upwards—		
British	5½	5¾
Belgian and German	5¼	5½
Iron and steel bars and angles and tees, and U, without mark‡—		
British	5¾	5½
Belgian and German	5	5 2/15
Iron bars, Swedish	10	10
Iron, pig	3 1/10	3 2/10
Iron hoops...	6¼	6½
„ hoops, with holes	6¾	6 9/10
Steel hoops	6½	6 7/10
„ hoops, with holes	7	7
Galvanised sheets (B.G., 18 to 26)	12½	12½
„ corrugated sheets (B.G., 18 to 26)	10⅛	10½
Ordinary cast-iron pipes and fittings	*ad val.*	*ad val.*
Studs (Benwill's) new	25	25
„ „ old	20	20
„ small	24	24
Nails (French), from France, Belgium, Germany and America (15 by 35 to 24 by 200)	8¼	8¼
Iron and steel girders from the United Kingdom ...	5¼	5¼
„ „ „ „ Belgium and Germany ...	4½	4 6/10

* Duty is levied on these valuations at the rate of 8 per cent. The English ton is taken as equivalent to 1,016 kilogs.

† 1,000 millièmes = £E 1 = 1*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*

‡ The duties on iron and steel wares bearing special marks are dutiable *ad valorem*. The following, however, are not considered as special marks:—"Siemens-Martin," "S.M.," "Thomas"; the names of manufacturers without crowns or with only one crown, provided that they do not represent a special quality; also all other marks indicated by the importers and agreed upon beforehand by the Customs.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

EGYPT—*continued.*

Iron tubes for gas, water and steam, and fittings therefor, and iron tubes for boilers are assessed at various rates in accordance with certain trade lists from which discounts are allowed. Particulars with regard to these lists and discounts may be consulted at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Valuation Tariffs for Exports.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 1st April, contains two Valuation Tariffs for the purpose of assessing export duties on various articles of Egyptian produce. One of these, in force for the current month only, contains valuations for cotton, sugar, rice and other cereals and vegetables. The second, in force from the 1st April to the 30th June, 1905, contains valuations for a number of miscellaneous articles such as sesame, flax, tow, wool, ivory, wax, hides and skins of various sorts, horns and hoofs, cotton seed oil, &c.

These Tariffs may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73 Basinghall Street, E.C.

RUSSIA.

Tariff Classifications.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Russian Customs Department have recently notified the following Decisions affecting the application of the Customs Tariff:—

Cloth for packing hops.—Cloth made of vegetable substances and serving as the usual internal covers for packing hops is to pay duty under No. 26 of the Tariff at the same rate as the hops which they contain (5 roubles 25 copecks per poud, or 1*l.* 14*s.* 6*d.* per cwt.).

Machine belting, sewn and unsewn.—Under the heading of "*unsewn* machine belting," dutiable at the rate of 9 roubles per poud (6¼*d.* per lb.), is to be included all such belting as is made of a single layer of leather; the sewing, glueing, or fastening together of the ends of *longitudinal* strips to form a belt is not to be held a reason for classifying it under No. 57, section 6. Belting, however, even when made of one layer of leather, when its width is made up in any way whatsoever, by means of several *parallel* strips, is dutiable under No. 57, section 6, at the rate of 30 copecks per funt (8½*d.* per lb.).

Celluloid in unworked pieces, rings, films, sticks, or sheets, even if polished, but not of the nature of manufactured articles, is dutiable under No. 68 of the Tariff, at the rate of 4 roubles 95 copecks per poud (3½*d.* per lb.). Manufactured celluloid articles are dutiable under No. 215, at the rate of 60 copecks per funt (1*s.* 4¾*d.* per lb.).

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

GERMANY.

Tariff Classification of certain Yarns.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a Circular recently addressed to Prussian Custom-houses, relative to the tariff classification of the undermentioned cotton yarns :—

1. Yarns consisting of two woollen threads and one cotton thread, in which the cotton thread and one woollen thread are first twisted into one strand, this strand being then twisted up with the second woollen thread ;

2. Yarns consisting of a double-twisted black cotton strand, a single black cotton thread, and a single white woollen thread, in which the double-twisted cotton strand is first twisted up with the single white woollen thread in such a manner as to cause the latter to form knots at certain intervals, the strand thus formed being then twisted with the single cotton thread ; and

3. Yarns consisting of three double-twisted cotton strands and a single woollen thread, in which the single woollen thread is first wrapped round crosswise with two of the cotton strands, the combination thus formed being then twisted together with the third cotton strand.

It appears that, before the issue of this Circular, these yarns paid duty under No. 2 *c* 5 of the Tariff as "yarns of *two* threads, cable twist," at the rate of 70 marks per 100 kilogs. (3¾*d.* per lb.) It has now been decided that they should be classified as "yarns of *three or more* threads, single and cable twist," under No. 2 *c* 4 of the Tariff, at the rate of 48 marks per 100 kilogs. (2½*d.* per lb.)

Additions to List of Duty-Free Ships' Utensils.

H.M. Commercial Attaché at Berlin reports that it is announced in the German "Zentralblatt" for the 24th March last that the Bundesrath has made the following additions to the special list of ships' utensils which may be imported into the German Empire free of duty :—

Anchors for laying cables.

Cable for searching anchors ("*Suchanker*") and for buoys.

Instruments : Low-pressure steam gauges ; deep sea thermometers.

Utensils, &c. : Cable buoys (of iron or of sailcloth), air-pumps, signals for use in cable laying, lamps for buoys, frames for buoy lamps, lead-lines for sounding and appurtenances thereof.

Hand tools : Tools for engineers engaged in laying cables.

Customs Decisions.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, translations of two Orders recently issued by the Hamburg Customs Authorities, relating to the Tariff classification of certain articles under the German Customs Tariff. The following is the substance of these Orders :—

Incubators made of wood, combined with base metals, glass, &c.,

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

and padded with silk, cotton, asbestos, mineral wool, or other non-conducting substances, are to pay duty under No. 13 *g* of the Tariff at the rate of 30 marks per 100 kilogs. (15*s.* 3*d.* per cwt.).

The paint known as *Matolin* is to be considered as a water-colour (and therefore duty-free under No. 5 *m* of the Tariff) only when it is not imported in small tubes, shells, pans, &c., and when it has the consistency of paste, or appears in a liquid form having an odour of carbolic acid, and consisting mainly of lithopon and glue with the addition of carbolic acid, and with slight traces of grease or fatty oil. When, on the contrary, this paint contains, besides, lithopon, glue, &c., three per cent. of fatty oil, it is subject to duty as an oil-colour under Tariff No. 5 *a* 2 at the rate of 20 marks per 100 kilogs. (10*s.* 2*d.* per cwt.).

SPAIN.

Rate of Exchange for Adjustment of Customs Duties payable in Gold.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 16th April contains a Royal Order notifying that the average rate of exchange (premium of exchange on Paris) during the first fortnight of April was 32·33 per cent., and that the corresponding reduction in payments of Customs duties which have to be made in gold during the second fortnight of the present month is to be 24 per cent.

ITALY.

Tariff Classification.

The Italian "Gazzetta Ufficiale" for the 13th March, contains a decision of the Minister of Finance to the effect that rough manufactures of fire-clay are to be dutiable by assimilation under No. 267 of the Tariff, as "earthenware."

Tariff Classification of Electric Carbons.

The "Bollettino di Legislazione e Statistica Doganale e Commerciale" for December, 1904, gives particulars of the new tariff classification of certain kinds of electric carbons, introduced by a Royal Decree of 30th October, 1904:—

—	Number of the Tariff under which Dutiable.	Rate of Duty.	English Equivalent.
		Per 100 *kilogs.* Lire Ct.	*Per cwt.* s. d.
Carbons for electric ovens	267*a*	3 00	1 2¾
Carbons for electric lamps, without accessories of metal, with or without metallic casing...	269*b*	10 00	4 0¾
Carbons for electric batteries, of any kind, other than those furnished with metal accessories	269*b*	10 00	4 0¾
Carbon brushes for dynamos—electric machines, without accessories of metal, with or without metallic casing	269*b*	10 00	4 0¾

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Free Entry of Automobiles for Touring &c.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a Circular of the United States Treasury Department, consolidating the various regulations which have been issued by that Department (and noticed in the "Board of Trade Journal") concerning the free entry of automobiles (i) for touring purposes or (ii) as "household effects."

A copy of the Circular may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

New Customs Tariff.—*Continued from p. 69 of last week's issue of the "Board of Trade Journal":—*

(NOTE.—Alterations in, or additions to, the originally proposed Tariff classification, are indicated by *italic* type.)

Tariff No.	New Tariff Classification.	Rates of Duty.		
		At present.	Originally. Proposed.	Finally Adopted.
Ex 243	Marine engines ... ... (*Note.*—Pumps are not mentioned under this number in the new Tariff).	100 kgs. 1 50	10 % *ad val.*	15 % *ad val.*
245	Agricultural machinery and apparatus, machinery and apparatus for pile driving, dredging, hoisting, and making or preparing roads, for refrigerating and ice making, *saw mill machinery, machinery and apparatus for extracting vegetable oils and for converting the same into other products*, for making sugar, for preparing rice, hemp, and other vegetable products of the islands for the markets, and detached parts for such machinery or apparatus, *also traction and portable engines and their boilers adapted to and imported for and with rice threshing machines, and steam ploughs* ... NOTE.—*The expression "preparing vegetable products for the markets," shall be taken to mean putting said products in their first marketable condition.*	100 kgs. 0 25* 100 kgs. 1 00†	5 % *ad val.** 15 % *ad val.*†	5 %

* Other than traction engines. † Traction engines.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

Tariff No.	New Tariff Classification.	Rates of Duty. At present.	Originally Proposed.	Finally Adopted.
		Dols. cts.	Dols. cts.	Dols. cts.
248	Apparatus and appliances for the generation, distribution, testing, measuring, and installation of electricity, dry and wet batteries, carbon brushes, arc lamps and their fittings, insulating materials, tapes, and compounds used exclusively for electrical purposes; bells, annunciators, telephones, and apparatus pertaining to the same; galvanometers, amperemeters, voltmeters, and wattmeters; and all or any parts of apparatus specified, including insulators of glass or porcelain or other material	*	20 % *ad val.*	5 % *ad val.*
249	Storage batteries ...	100 kgs. 25 00	20 % *ad val.*	5 % *ad val.*
250	Dynamos, generators, exciters, and all other machinery for the generation of electricity for lighting or for power; transformers and electric motors, *and electric fans*	100 kgs. 5 00	20 % *ad val.*	5 % *ad val.*
(*a*)	Incandescent lamps, mounted or not	Hundred 2 00	20 % *ad val.*	15 % *ad val.*
276	Rice—			
	On May 1st, 1905, and until January 1st, 1907—			
	Unhusked	100 kgs. 0 40	100 kgs. 0 80	100 kgs. 0 60
	Husked	" 0 50	" 1 00	" 0 75
	Flour	" 1 50	" 2 00	" 1 75
	On and after January 1st, 1907—			
	Unhusked	As	above	" 0 80
	Husked			" 1 00
	Flour			" 2 00
	Provided, however, that the Philippine Commission may, in its discretion, continue in force the present rate of duty until in its opinion the conditions in the Philippine Islands may warrant the higher rates herein provided.			

* Galvanometers, amperemeters and voltmeters at present pay 25 dols. per 100 kgs. Porcelain insulators pay 4 dols. per 100 kgs., and other articles included under No. 248 of the present tariff pay 3 dols. per 100 kgs.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

Tariff No.	New Tariff Classification.	Rates of Duty.					
		At present.		Originally Proposed.		Finally Adopted.	
			Dols. cts.		Dols. cts.		Dols. cts.
308 (*a*)	Whisky, rum and gin ...	litre	0 35	litre	0 50	Proof litre	0 35
	Brandy	"	0 45	"	0 65		
(*b*)	Cocktails, blackberry and ginger brandy	"	0 35	"	0 50	Gauge litre	0 35
(*c*)	Liqueurs, cordials, and all compound spirits not specially mentioned ...	"	0 45	"	0 65	Gauge litre	0 65
	Provided, however, that if the proof in the liquors classified under* (b) *and* (c) *of this paragraph should be above one hundred and five degrees, the same shall pay a surtax of twenty-five cents per litre.						

Duty on Imports from United States.

Section 10 of the new Tariff Act provides "that importations from the United States are to be dutiable under the provisions of this Act."

Consular Invoices.

Section 22 of the Act provides "that the entry of all importations at the ports of the Philippine Islands made subsequent to a period of sixty days from the date this revised Tariff goes into force, of goods, wares and merchandise from countries other than the United States, when the value of such importation exceeds one hundred dollars, shall be accompanied by a consular invoice similar to that required for goods imported into the United States from foreign countries, and executed as required for importations into the United States; and when brought into the Philippine Islands from the United States, such importations shall be accompanied by an invoice similar in form to the consular invoices required for importations into the United States, but in lieu of execution by a consul of the United States, such invoices shall be sworn to before a United States commissioner, collector of customs, or deputy collector of customs."

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—*continued.*

Drawback of Import Duty on Exportation of Articles Manufactured from Imported Materials.

Section 23 of the Act provides "that where imported materials "on which duties have been paid are used "in the manufacture or production of articles "manufactured or produced in the Philippine "Islands, there shall be allowed on the "exportation of such articles a drawback "equal in amount to the duties paid on the "materials used, less one per cent of such "duties."

VENEZUELA.

Opening of Port of Pampatar.—Closing of Ports of Juangriego and Porlamar.

The Board of Trade understand that the Venezuelan Government have declared Pampatar a port open to trade, and that they propose to establish facilities for the storage of merchandise in bond there. The dues to be charged for storage will be three per cent. of the value of the goods for any period not exceeding six months, and one per cent. for each succeeding month.

It is also understood that the ports of Juangriego and Porlamar have ceased to be ports open to trade.

BRAZIL (STATE OF RIO DE JANEIRO).

State Import Duties.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that by a Decree of the 1st March last the Government of the State of Rio de Janeiro increased the State import duties levied on certain articles of foreign production, and established duties on some other articles.

These duties are now as follows, in addition to, and independent of, the import duties levied by the Federal Government:—

		Milreis.
Rice	... Bag of 60 kilogs. (132 lbs.)	5·000
Potatoes	... ... kilog.	0·100
Butter	... ... ,,	0·300
Onions	... ... ,,	0·300
Garlic	... ... ,,	0·200
Cigarette straw	... ... ,,	0·200

ECUADOR.

Importation of Cigarette Paper and Matches Prohibited.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 184 of the "Journal" for the 26th January last, respecting the establishment of a State monopoly of matches, tobacco, and cigarette paper in Ecuador, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy

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of a despatch from H.M. Consul at Guayaquil relating to this monopoly.

H.M. Consul states that the match monopoly is absolute, but that as regards cigarette paper the Government are empowered to grant permission to private individuals to import such paper under certain restrictions as to preparation in rolls, watermarks, &c.; but importers are under the obligation to pay to the Government any difference between the imported cost price of the cigarette paper and the regulation Government sale price.

The regulations of the tobacco monopoly have not yet been published, but it is understood that the monopoly itself came into force on the 1st January last.

COLOMBIA.

Customs Tariff.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 225 of the "Journal" for the 2nd February last, relative to an increase of Colombian import duties and an alteration in the tariff classification of articles, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of the Presidential Decree introducing the modified Tariff and fixing the fees to be paid for the certification of Consular invoices and manifests, which came into force on the 28th January last.

The substance of the more important provisions of this Decree is given below:—

Article I. provides that import duties shall be paid in accordance with the Tariff fixed by Law No. 63 of 1903* increased by 70 per cent., and in conformity with the tariff classification of Law 36 of 1886, as shown below.

Article V. specifies certain articles necessary to industrial development which are to be exempted from the surtax of 70 per cent.; while the duties on certain other articles, such as alcoholic beverages, tobacco, and sugar, are to be increased.

[NOTE.—All the duties given below, with the exceptions mentioned in Article V., require to be increased by the surtax of 70 per cent.]

New Customs Tariff.

Comestibles and Condiments.

	Per kilog. Dols.	Gold.
Sweet potatoes or yams, potatoes, onions, maize, rice, chick peas, lentils, beans, and all other kinds of vegetables, garden produce, and fruits, fresh	0	01
Garlic	0	03
Codfish and meat in brine, and in general, fish and meat not prepared...	0	03

* A translation of this Tariff appeared in the "Journal" for the 28th January 1904, and following issues.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COLOMBIA—*continued.*

	Per kilog. Dols.	Gold.
Hazelnuts, nuts, and almonds, in the shell, and in general, all alimentary products not prepared and not elsewhere mentioned	0	05
Vermicelli and other pastes	0	05
Alimentary products, prepared, such as Bologna sausages, salmon, hams, sweetmeats, confectionery, preserved and dried fruits, &c., fruits preserved in vinegar, and condiments of all kinds not specially mentioned	0	10
Olives, in barrels	0	05
Tea...	0	50
Cinnamon...	0	15
Saffron	0	90
Aniseed	0	10
Ice...	0	01
Beverages.		
Beer and other fermented beverages	0	03
Barley must and other materials, fermented or not, liquid or solid, for the manufacture of beer, and condensed beer	0	02
Wines—		
Red, common, in casks, barrels, or demijohns	0	02
White, sweet and dry, in casks or barrels	0	03
Other...	0	20
Liquids, other.		
Vinegar, in barrels	0	03
Olive oil	0	05
Linseed oil for preparing paint	0	05
Inks—		
Black, for writing	0	03
Coloured, for writing	0	05
Printing, and for bookbinders and lithographers (liquid or solid) ...	0	01
Liquids of all kinds, with the exception of perfumery, and of liquids specially mentioned	0	10
Cotton.		
Cotton manufactured into unbleached tissues, without white or coloured parts, not figured and without needlework	0	20
Cotton *fulas*, blue; and tissues, white, or unbleached with white parts, plain, neither dyed nor figured, without needlework or embroidery, such as those known as *bogotanas*, calicos, *liencillos*, madapolams, Croydons, and the like	0	30
Drills and other tissues, white or coloured, not otherwise mentioned ...	0	40
Counterpanes, "Marseilles" tissues, and figured or damasked tissues not included in any other category; velveteens, tapes and ribbons ...	0	50
Shawls, with or without woollen fringes	0	40
Handkerchiefs, with or without common embroidery; travelling blankets (*ruanas*) and tissues for the manufacture thereof	0	60
Stockings and other kinds of hosiery, such as undershirts, drawers, and gloves; muslins, lawns and other transparent tissues; damasks, table-covers, and hammocks; ready-made clothing, without embroidery, lace or other ornamentation composed of materials subject to higher duties	0	70
All kinds of tissues, embroidered or with net work and imitations thereof, including lace, insertions, &c., and ready-made clothing not otherwise mentioned	0	90
Thread, white	0	20
" coloured...	0	40
Fringes, galloons, cords, braids, tassels, and other similar articles ...	0	70
Wicks for lamps and tinder-boxes	0	10
" for candles and matches	0	05
Cords suitable for reins	0	10

(To be continued.)

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

SANTO DOMINGO.

Additional Duty on Alcoholic Beverages.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation (in part) of a Dominican Law which was published in the "Gaceta Oficial" for the 10th December last, imposing the following taxes (leviable in addition to the ordinary import duties) on alcoholic beverages imported into Santo Domingo:—

Articles.	Duty.
Spirits.	Pesos.*
Spirituous liquors or rum, up to 20° Cartier, for each gallon of 4½ bottles of 720 grammes	0 60
And for each degree above 20°	0 02
Spirituous liquors or rum, for each litre or bottle	0 15
" " " for each half litre or half bottle, or receptacle of smaller capacity	0 07½
Alcohol extracted from cane, beet, wood, cereals or starch, for each gallon	1 00
Do. do. for each litre or bottle	0 25
Do. do. for each half litre or half bottle, or receptacle of smaller capacity	0 12½
Champagne or other sparkling wines.	
For each litre or bottle	0 30
For each half litre or half bottle or receptacle of smaller capacity...	0 15
Still wines.	
For each litre or bottle	0 04
For each half litre or half bottle or receptacle of smaller capacity...	0 02
Natural Cider.	
For each litre or bottle	0 06
For each half litre or half bottle or receptacle of smaller capacity...	0 03
Beer of all kinds.	
For each bottle or litre	0 02
For each half bottle or half litre...	0 01

Other beverages not specified will pay duty in accordance with the same Tariff.

The Law also imposes a tax, at half the above rates, on spirituous liquors manufactured in the country; and provides for drawback of the duty paid on the exportation thereof.

* The nominal value of the Dominican *peso* is 4s. It is understood that the present duty is leviable at the full nominal value.

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Expropriation of the Tanjong Pagar Dock Company, Limited.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are in receipt of information from the Registrar of Imports and Exports, Singapore (Mr. A. Stuart), to the effect that on the 4th March a "Bill to provide for the acquisition by the Government of the Straits Settlements of the undertaking known as the Tanjong Pagar Dock Company, Limited, and for the management of the same," passed its second reading. This Company is stated to have long had a monopoly of the docking interests at Singapore, and also at Penang under the name of the Prye River Docks. Under the new régime, extensions and improvements will be carried out.

In 1904, 2,356 vessels are stated to have been berthed and 4,432,758 tons of coal and cargo landed and shipped at the wharves in Singapore.

RUSSIA.

Freight Charges to Persian Gulf Ports.

The following translation of a notice which appeared in the "Torgovo-Promyshlennaia Gazeta" of 5th/18th March, has been received from H.M. Consul-General at Odessa (Mr. C. S. Smith):—

"From the 1st/14th April, in view of the departure from Odessa of one of the steamships of the Russian Steam Navigation and Trading Company for the conveyance of cargoes to the ports in the Persian Gulf, viz., Muscat, Bunder-Abbas, Lingah, Bushire, and Bassora, calling *en route* at Constantinople, Smyrna, Beirut, Jaffa, Port Said, Suez, Jedda, Jibuti, and Aden, and also to Bagdad, with transhipment at Bassora for further conveyance by the River Tigris—

"The Ministry of Finance has ordered that the goods destined for the above ports by this sailing shall pay for transport by rail according to the tariff for direct oversea export trade, and shall be forwarded under conditions of that tariff. With regard to goods which are not accepted for conveyance under this tariff, but which the Russian Steam Navigation and Trading Company are willing to receive for conveyance to Persian Gulf Ports, the railway charge shall be according to the tariff for internal communication. For the part of the conveyance by sea the following freight will be charged:—

	Per poud. Copecks.	Per ton. s. d.
Manufactured goods and textiles ...	22 ...	(28 10½)
Sugar, sand-sugar, and sugar residues	24 ...	(31 6)
Wood, and building timber materials	15 ...	(19 8¼)
All other cargoes	20 ...	(26 3)

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Shipping and Transport.

"When cargoes are destined for Bagdad, there will be levied a special supplementary payment in conformity with the cost of conveyance up the River Tigris from Bassora.

"Besides the said voyage, two others will be performed in 1905 to the Persian Gulf, leaving Odessa on July 27th/9th August, and September 26th/9th October."

BELGIUM.

Special Railway Tariff for Foodstuffs consigned from Italy.

The "Moniteur Belge" of 2nd April contains a Decree approving—

1. A special tariff for the accelerated transport on the Belgian State Railways of foodstuffs consigned in full truck-loads from Italy to Belgium and the Netherlands, *viâ* the St. Gothard and Brenner.

2. A similar tariff for foodstuffs consigned from Italy to England, *viâ* the St. Gothard, Brenner and Mont-Cenis.

FRANCE—SPAIN.

Trans-Pyrenean Railways.

According to a statement published in "La Revue Minéralurgique" the French Commission of Public Works have approved the project for the construction of the Trans-Pyrenean Railways, referred to on p. 535 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 22nd September, and p. 226 of the "Journal" of the 2nd February. The lines from Oloron to Jaca and from Ax to Ripoll are to be completed within ten years, and that from Saint-Girons to Port within twenty years.

MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS—CHRISTMAS ISLAND.

Phosphate Industry.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Registrar of Imports and Exports at Singapore (Mr. A. Stuart) the following particulars extracted from the report on Christmas Island for the year 1904, recently published at Singapore:—

The total amount of phosphate shipped was 71,757 tons, as compared with 70,096 tons in 1903. A heavy swell from the 19th December to the close of the year prevented loading, otherwise 7,500 tons more might have been shipped.

Both rock and granular phosphate were quarried and exported, and the process is described as follows:—

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

"On its arrival at the works from the quarries, all phosphate is passed on to a large sieve, which separates the large rock phosphate from the granular and smaller rock phosphate.

"These latter are then subjected to a process of drying, which eliminates nearly all the moisture.

"The rest of the rock phosphate is not treated in any way.

"The amounts of dried and undried phosphate shipped during the year were 30,771 tons and 40,986 tons respectively."

During the year improvements in the manner of tipping phosphate from the pier to the ship resulted in over 1,300 tons being shipped in one day.

TRINIDAD.

Petroleum Concession.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by the Collector of Customs at Port of Spain (Mr. R. McCarthy) that a concession to explore Crown Lands for petroleum has been granted by the Government of Trinidad to the Oil Exploration Company of Canada. The deed, which takes the place of a former concession for five years, applies to an area of about 50 square miles in the south eastern part of the Island, and is to remain in force for twenty one years. It provides for the payment of a royalty of 10 per cent. The results of the work, so far as it has gone, are said to be very satisfactory, both as regards quantity and quality.

GERMANY.

International Export Agreements as regards Rails, Tubes, and Partly Manufactured Articles.

In his report on the trade of Germany in 1904 (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,333), H.M. Consul-General at Berlin (Mr. P. Schwabach) states that at the end of February, 1904, almost all the large steel works were united under the Steel Works Syndicate, which now controls nearly the whole production of steel in Germany, *i.e.*, more than 8,000,000 tons; about half of that quantity is sold by the syndicate directly, while the other half is sold by the individual works but according to rules laid down by the syndicate. The agencies of the single works in foreign countries were in turn amalgamated and are also directly controlled by the syndicate, and international agreements have been concluded with manufacturers in other countries for the sale of special lines such as rails, &c.

The following international export agreements existed at the end of 1904 and the beginning of 1905:—(1) The International Rail Syndicate; (2) The International Tube Syndicate; and (3) the international agreement for partly manufactured articles.

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

The International Rail Syndicate was concluded for three years by British, German, and Belgian manufacturers, and their respective quota were 53·50, 28·83 and 17·67 per cent.; the French manufacturers who joined the syndicate later were awarded 4·8 of 104·8 per cent. for the first, 5·8 of the 105·8 per cent. for the second and 6·4 of 106·4 per cent. for the third year. The chief distributing office is in London.

The Tube Syndicate embraces German, Belgian, and French works, and their respective quota are 73·45, 15·05 and 11·50 per cent. The sales are effected through the three sales offices at Düsseldorf, Paris and Brussels, not through the works themselves.

An international agreement for partly manufactured goods was reported to have been concluded at the end of January, 1905, between Germany, the United Kingdom, the United States, Belgium, and France.

FRANCE.

Discovery of Coal at Pont-à-Mousson.

The "Journal des Tarifs et Traités de Commerce" states that a statement has been presented to the French Academy of Science by M. Cavallier, Managing Director of the Pont-à-Mousson Iron Foundry, as to the discovery on the 19th March, of coal in the department of Meurthe-et-Moselle. Researches have been carried on for some time past in this department, and at the present time fourteen borings for coal are in course of progress. The coal discovered at Pont-à-Mousson is very near the surface and, in the opinion of M. Zeiller, Professor at the School of Mines, is of the same class as that in the Saarbruck Mines.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Coal Industry of the Middle West.

A despatch has been received, through the Foreign Office, from H.M. Consul at Chicago (Mr. A. Finn) giving a detailed account of the coal industry of the Consular District of Chicago. Particulars of the area of coal-bearing formations, production, average price per ton and quality of coal in Illinois, Iowa, Colorado, Kansas, Wyoming, Missouri, Indian Territory, Nebraska, Montana, and North Dakota are set forth, together with numerous notes as to the condition of the industry in these States, wages of workers, and utilisation and destination of the product.

This report may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 15th April, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.*	8*d.*
Barley	24*s.*	3*d.*
Oats	17*s.*	6*d.*

For further particulars see p. 132.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 133, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 15th April, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

CEYLON.

Silk Cultivation.

From a report of a recent meeting of the Agricultural Board, published in the "Ceylon Observer," it appears that the results of experiments have proved conclusively that silk of excellent quality can be raised in Ceylon. Samples of cocoons raised at Peradeniya from European seed were classed by a European expert as second only to best Italian silk.

A resolution to create a silkworm-rearing establishment in the island was carried unanimously, after consideration of a detailed estimate of the cost of equipment which had been furnished by the Inspector General of Agriculture in India. It was suggested that a ten-acre plot should be immediately opened and planted with mulberry trees, which will take at least three years to mature before they can be utilised with safety. Castor-oil plants should in the meantime be grown between the rows of mulberry, and crops of the "Eri" or castor-oil-feeding worms raised. Silk from "Eri" worms is not reeled, but is carded and spun much in the same manner as cotton. Simple carding machines could be imported at a small cost. The raising and tending of the hardier "Eri" worms would form an excellent training for the manipulation of the more delicate mulberry feeding worms at a later period.

RUSSIA.

Supervision of Grain Export.

Referring to the notice on p. 80 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 13th April, the British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) states, on the authority of the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette," that the St. Petersburg Bourse Committee have declined to accept the Government proposal relative to the supervision of the export of grain, the reasons assigned being that it would be difficult in practice to carry out the proposed control, and that such a control at the port of St. Petersburg is superfluous, as hitherto no complaint has been received from foreign buyers against the quality of grain exported from the capital.

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Agriculture.

The "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" refers also in detail to the irregularities on the part of a Nikolaievsk exporter recently before the Odessa Law Courts, and suggests that such cases could not arise were grain export certificates obligatory. Western European buyers should, however, the "Gazette" adds, meet the Bourses half-way by demanding certificates.

GERMANY.

Wine Crop of 1904.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a report by H.M. Consul at Cologne (Mr. C. A. Niessen), on the German wine crop of 1904. This report, which gives particulars as to the quality of the wine, the prices fetched by same, prices of vineyards, &c., together with information as to diseases of the vine and the remedies applied, may be seen on application at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

BRAZIL.

Estimated Coffee Crop, 1905-06.

A memorandum has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from the Acting British Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. C. B. Rhind), stating that the Commission appointed by the Coffee Exchange of that City for the computation of the coming crop of 1905-6 have confirmed the estimate placing the quantity available during that period for export from the port of Rio de Janeiro at 3½ to 4 million bags.

URUGUAY.

Wool Exports.

In a recent despatch to the Foreign Office, H.M. Minister-Resident and Consul-General at Montevideo (Mr. W. Baring) reports that the total exports of wool from that port for the season commencing 1st August, 1904, and ending 28th February last, amounted to 10,810 bales as against 12,980 bales during a like period of the previous year.

The exports were distributed as follows:—

Destination.	1903.	1904.
	Bales.	Bales.
Genoa	61	558
Bordeaux	5,055	4,887
Marseilles	4,528	4,787
Liverpool	866	63
Hamburg	2,470	834
Dunkirk	—	131
Antwerp	—	50
Total	12,980	10,810

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MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

State of the Labour Market in March, 1905.

A report published in the "Board of Trade Labour Gazette"* of 16th April, based on 4,574 returns, viz.: 3,228 from Employers, or their Associations, 1,255 from Trade Unions, and 91 from other sources, states that on the whole employment improved in March as compared with the preceding month. In the engineering and shipbuilding trades there was some decrease in the numbers unemployed. The cotton trade was very brisk.

As compared with a year ago there was considerable improvement in the iron and steel trades generally, and in the cotton industry. On the other hand, the building, coal mining, and boot and shoe industries showed some decline.

In the 271 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 578,684, making returns, 32,558 (or 5·6 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of March, 1905, as compared with 6·2 at the end of February, and 6·0 at the end of March, 1904.

There was a slight rise in wages during March.

* For list of principal contents of the "Board of Trade Labour Gazette," see p. 136.

Fishery Statistics, March, 1905.

The following statement shows the quantity and value of fish landed on the English and Welsh, Scotch, and Irish Coasts during the month and three months ended 31st March, 1905, compared with the corresponding periods of the year 1904:—

—	Month of March.				Three Months ended 31st March.			
	1905.		*1904.*		1905.		*1904.*	
	Quantity.	Value.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	Quantity.	Value.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
England and Wales—	Cwts.	£	*Cwts.*	*£*	Cwts.	£	*Cwts.*	*£*
Fish, excluding shell fish	685,499	580,639	*771,553*	*562,810*	1,692,511	1,526,479	*1,851,781*	*1,482,292*
Shell fish	—	23,861	—	*23,081*	—	62,065	—	*62,197*
Total Value ...	—	604,500	—	*585,891*	—	1,588,544	—	*1,544,489*
Scotland—								
Fish, excluding shell fish	342,472	143,635	*315,651*	*140,262*	1,059,074	443,698	*1,125,354*	*469,754*
Shell fish	—	5,348	—	*5,985*	—	13,408	—	*15,420*
Total Value ...	—	148,983	—	*146,247*	—	457,106	—	*485,174*
Ireland—								
Fish, excluding shell fish	14,673	12,844	*18,273*	*12,452*	48,625	34,264	*60,183*	*34,741*
Shell fish	—	621	—	*549*	—	2,004	—	*1,619*
Total Value ...	—	13,465	—	*13,001*	—	36,268	—	*36,360*

NOTE.—All the above figures are subject to correction in the annual returns.

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Miscellaneous.

UNITED KINGDOM—*continued.*

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 13th April, 1905, was 69,568 (including 112 bales British West Indian and 83 bales British West African), and the number imported during the 15 weeks ended the 13th April was 1,297,965 (including 727 bales British West African and 1,068 bales British West Indian). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 13th April, 1905, 6,409 bales, and for the 15 weeks, 158,152 (including 16 bales British West African).

For further details see p. 132.

Bankruptcy Statistics.

The total number of receiving orders gazetted in England and Wales during the month of March last was 486, as compared with 425 during March, 1904.

For detailed particulars see pp. 134-5.

NORWAY.

Water Shortage.

Referring to the notices on pp. 469–70 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 9th March last, and on pp. 513–4 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 15th December, H.M. Consul-General at Christiania (Viscount Melville) reports, in a despatch to the Foreign Office, that judging from the weekly report of the supply of water in the Akers River, several mill industries are threatened with scarcity. This applies specially to pulp mills.

The Akers river, of which a weekly report on the supply of water is issued, is regarded as the best regulated of Norwegian rivers, and thus affords the most correct estimate of the water supply. In the report for the last week in March, the difference between the total and the effective volume was calculated at six million cubic metres. The regulated discharge per second is five cubic metres, and in case of insufficiency of supply for the whole week, the discharge is stopped after a certain number of hours per week. The inflow in three days did not amount to more than the consumption of one day, so that the mills must consequently cease working for a whole week.

In many districts there have been complaints of shortage of water for industrial purposes, and there is unusually little snow to look to for increasing the volume.

ITALY—SICILY.

New Process for Producing Citric Acid.

With reference to the announcement made in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 23rd March, p. 569, respecting the projected establishment of a citric acid factory at Palermo in order to work the new process discovered by an Italian chemist of producing

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Miscellaneous.

citric acid direct from lemon-juice without first converting it into citrate of lime, H.M. Consul at Palermo (Mr. S. J. A. Churchill) now reports that the new method was demonstrated at Messina before a committee of experts appointed thereto by the Chamber of Commerce. Out of nine litres of crude lemon juice, and eight litres of boiled lemon juice, the demonstrator produced 91·78 grammes of anhydrous citric acid. This was done with the aid of various reagents which are his secret, and which he states are trifling in cost.

The Consul adds that there has been considerable discussion as to the merits of this process. The greatest problem concerning it up to the present is whether it will be a practical and commercial success.

MEXICO.

New Monetary Law.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico of 25th March contains the text of a Law establishing provisions for carrying out the terms of the Monetary Law of 9th December, 1904 (reproduced on pp. 38–39 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th January). Among the provisions of the present Law are the following, viz.:—

The right to coin money is reserved exclusively for the Executive Government, and private individuals will no longer be allowed to bring gold and silver to the Mints, to be coined for them (Art. 9). The issue of gold coins will be limited to the amount necessary for the exchange of the existing coins of that metal, the legal circulation of which will expire on 1st July, 1906. Provision is, however, made for legalising the free coinage of gold under certain special circumstances (Art. 10). From the date of the Law coming into force, fresh silver coins will be made and issued solely with a view to their exchange for gold coined or in bars, at the rate of 75 centigrammes of pure gold for one dollar, exception being made, however, in respect of the re-coining of existing silver coins (Arts. 11 and 14). The obligation to issue silver coins in exchange for gold will lapse should the value in Mexico City of the silver which the said coins must contain reach a higher rate than 75 centigrammes of pure gold for one dollar (Art. 12).

The obligation to pay any sum in Mexican money will be liquidated by the delivery of coins of the current issue for the value which they represent. All Government offices, as well as commercial establishments, companies, and private individuals, will be bound to accept the coinage specified in the Law in payment of sums due to them (Art. 20); gold coins of any value and silver coins of the value of one dollar being legal tender for any amount, silver coins for amounts not exceeding twenty dollars, and bronze and nickel coins for amounts not exceeding one dollar (Art. 21). Foreign coins will have no legal circulation in the Republic,

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except in cases where the Law expressly determines otherwise. Contracts entered into within or without the limits of the Republic for the payment of sums in foreign money, shall be legally executed by the payment of an equivalent sum in national currency, at the rate of exchange obtaining in the place where the payment is to be made at the time when it is due (Art. 22).

The Law is to come into force on 1st May; but from 16th April no metals are to be accepted from private individuals for coining purposes at the Mints and Federal Assaying Offices, nor from 25th March any foreign coins unless they have been imported prior to that date (Art. 1 "transitory").

The "Diario," containing the full text of the Law, may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

BRAZIL.

Customs Receipts in 1904.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Minister in Brazil (Sir H. N. Dering, Bt., K.C.M.G., C.B.) summarising the Custom-house receipts of Brazil for 1904, from which it appears that last year's receipts amounted to 209,262,579 milreis (162,689,878 milreis paper, and 46,572,701 milreis gold), as compared with 201,379,410 milreis in 1903 (157,841,341 milreis paper, and 43,538,069 milreis gold). The export revenue from Acre was 2,139,695 milreis.

The increase in the 1904 revenue, deducting the special revenue destined for the port works, amounting to 1,743,028 milreis, is reduced to 6,140,141 milreis, omitting the Acre revenue. Further deducting 635,870 milreis, additional gold revenue which did not exist in 1903, the actual increase in 1904 amounted to 5,504,271 milreis.

URUGUAY.

Establishment of Frozen Meat Trade.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Minister Resident and Consul-General at Monte Video (Mr. Walter Baring) reporting the sailing of the British s.s. "Sussex" for Buenos Ayres and London with the first cargo of frozen meat ever sent from Uruguay.

The consignment consists of frozen sheep, quarters of beef, and offal, and is despatched by the "Frigorifico Uruguayo," the newly formed Uruguayan freezing establishment. (See "Board of Trade Journal" of 23rd February last p. 379.)

In view of the difficulty of transporting the meat from the shore to the ships' holds, Mr. Baring is of opinion that a steam freezing lighter is required for the preservation of the meat in case of delay taking place owing to bad weather.

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 15 Weeks ended 13th April, 1905.

—	Week ended 13th April, 1905.	15 Weeks ended 13th April, 1905.	Week ended 13th April, 1905.	15 Weeks ended 13th April, 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	48,964	1,060,534	3,061	112,526
Brazilian	2,189	15,466	—	328
East Indian	211	17,293	142	4,825
Egyptian	17,164	188,261	3,103	39,594
Miscellaneous	1,040*	21,411†	103	909‡
Total	69,568	1,297,965	6,409	158,182

* Including 112 bales British West Indian and 83 bales British West African.
† Including 727 bales British West African and 1,068 bales British West Indian.
‡ Including 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 15th April, 1905. and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 15th April, 1905	30	8	24	3	17	6
Corresponding week in—						
1898	36	1	28	3	18	4
1899	24	8	25	2	17	1
1900	26	0	24	9	17	3
1901	26	8	25	7	18	8
1902	27	7	27	1	21	1
1903	25	6	21	6	17	3
1904	27	9	22	6	16	4

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 15th April, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 15th April, 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	10,464	*8,562*
Sheep and lambs	"	2,189	*6,400*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	205	*290*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	80,848	*90,042*
Mutton	"	91,126	*80,810*
Pork	"	10,275	*13,906*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	112,708	*102,851*
Beef	"	2,264	*2,038*
Hams	"	28,708	*16,601*
Pork	"	4,583	*4,533*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	16,000	*16,446*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	14,203	*15,424*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	68,376	*88,035*
Margarine	"	28,277	*19,687*
Cheese	"	35,214	*57,006*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	94	*122*
" condensed	"	12,140	*16,560*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	85	*17*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	296,840	*203,527*
Poultry	Value £	2,006	*12,632*
Game	"	1,562	*203*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	2,128	*1,526*
Lard	"	41,740	*28,980*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,324,000	*2,094,400*
Wheat meal and flour	"	252,800	*318,500*
Barley	"	289,500	*337,500*
Oats	"	347,000	*101,500*
Peas	"	29,139	*29,690*
Beans	"	22,690	*32,730*
Maize or Indian corn	"	544,000	*1,099,000*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	55,489	*78,690*
Apricots and peaches	"	1	*4*
Bananas	Bunches.	115,482	*55,070*
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	428	*356*
Lemons	"	22,050	*10,179*
Oranges	"	113,724	*198,406*
Pears	"	656	*268*
Plums	"	1	—
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	1,792	*2,943*
Hay...	Tons.	2,871	*2,129*
Straw	"	2,715	*2,838*
Moss Litter*	"	2,140	—
Hops	Cwts.	1,832	*379*
Locust Beans	"	1,510	*11,135*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	183,738	*216,162*
Potatoes	Cwts.	26,542	*325,616*
Tomatoes	"	33,976	*21,437*
Unenumerated	Value £	13,254	*17,374*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	785	*3,734*
Preserved by canning...	"	4,724	*6,297*

* Not shown in 1904.

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Bankruptcy.—England and Wales.

Number of Receiving Orders Gazetted in the under-mentioned Periods and in the under-mentioned Principal Trades and Occupations.

	March.		Three Months ended March.	
	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*
Total gazetted...	No. 486	*No. 425*	No. 1,311	*No. 1,179*
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations:—				
Publicans and hotel keepers, &c.	31	*27*	86	*64*
Grocers, &c....	33	*30*	83	*74*
Farmers	24	*17*	76	*43*
Builders	21	*23*	71	*83*
Bakers	13	*8*	46	*38*
Greengrocers, fruiterers, &c.	18	*15*	41	*39*
Drapers, haberdashers, &c.	17	*13*	36	*31*
Decorators, painters, plumbers, &c.	12	*7*	32	*22*
Boot and shoe manufacturers and dealers ...	14	*5*	28	*13*
Tailors, &c.	11	*8*	27	*25*
Butchers	16	*3*	25	*25*
Coal and coke merchants and dealers	11	*4*	24	*18*
Agents, commission and general	8	*4*	23	*15*
Fishmongers, poulterers, &c.	7	*6*	20	*19*
Auctioneers	7	*2*	19	*6*
Corn, flour, seed, hay, and straw merchants and dealers	7	*2*	14	*14*
Confectioners	5	*4*	14	*12*
Hairdressers...	5	*4*	14	*6*
Clerks, commercial and general	5	*6*	13	*19*
Restaurant, coffee and eating-house keepers ..	7	*6*	13	*9*
Carriers, carmen, lightermen, and hauliers ...	5	*1*	13	*9*
Furniture dealers and makers	6	*8*	12	*17*
Travellers, commercial	5	*2*	12	*6*
Bicycle, &c., manufacturers and dealers ..	4	*3*	11	*8*
Cab, omnibus and fly proprietors	2	*1*	11	*4*
Tobacconists, &c.	2	*1*	10	*6*
Carpenters and joiners	3	*2*	10	*8*
Milliners, dressmakers, &c.	8	*5*	10	*10*

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Bankruptcy.—England and Wales—*continued.*

	March.		Three Months ended March.	
	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*
	No.	*No.*	No.	*No.*
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations—*continued:*				
Provision merchants, &c.	3	*3*	10	*5*
Jewellers, watchmakers, silversmiths, &c. ...	4	*4*	10	*13*
Clothiers, outfitters, &c.	3	*1*	9	*5*
Ironmongers	5	*4*	9	*8*
Solicitors	1	*5*	8	*9*
General dealers	2	*9*	8	*17*
Schoolmasters and schoolmistresses	2	*2*	8	*7*
Printers, booksellers, and publishers	4	*4*	8	*16*
Doctors of medicine, physicians, &c.	4	—	8	*5*
Directors and promoters of public companies ...	1	*2*	7	*7*
Engineers and founders, &c.	2	*6*	7	*10*
Cabinet makers and upholsterers	2	*6*	7	*9*
Timber merchants and wood dealers	2	*5*	7	*8*
Wheelwrights	2	*3*	7	*5*
Contractors	3	*4*	7	*8*
Merchants, general	3	*5*	7	*10*
Chemists, druggists and chemical manufacturers	4	*3*	7	*6*
Stationers	4	—	7	*2*
Gardeners, florists, &c.	—	*2*	6	*13*
China, glass, and earthenware, &c., dealers ..	1	*2*	6	*4*
Curriers, tanners, and leather merchants ..	1	—	6	*2*
Lodging-house keepers	2	*1*	6	*8*
Cattle and pig dealers	2	*2*	6	*8*
Woollen merchants and manufacturers... ..	2	*3*	6	*5*
Officers in Army	4	*1*	6	*5*
Stone, marble and monumental masons, &c. ...	2	*2*	5	*5*
Carriage, &c., builders	3	*4*	5	*6*
Blacksmiths, farriers, &c.	1	*2*	4	*8*
Saddlers and harness makers	2	*5*	4	*8*
Architects and surveyors	2	—	4	*8*
Brokers, stock and share	—	*2*	3	*5*
Fishing smack owners, and masters	1	*1*	3	*3*
Hosiers, glovers, &c.	2	*3*	3	*5*
Dairymen, cowkeepers, &c.	—	*4*	2	*9*
Wine and spirit merchants, &c.	2	*1*	2	*3*
Millers	—	*3*	1	*7*
Cotton spinners and manufacturers	—	*1*	1	*2*

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of March, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the April issue:—State of the Labour Market in March; Wages in the Cotton Trade; Co-operative Credit Societies; Relief of the Unemployed; Prices of Coal and Iron; and Recent Conciliation and Arbitration Cases.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,338. Finances of Italy, 1904.

Financial statement for 1903–4.

Increased revenue from railways and income tax.

Estimated increase in revenue, 1904–5, expected from railways, excise and octroi, posts and telegraphs. Loss consequent on abolition of internal octroi duty on cereals.

Estimated increase of expenditure due to public works including the conservancy of the harbour of Genoa.

Public debt. Balance sheets of banks. Estimates for 1905–6. Future administration of railways.

Effects of commercial treaties with Switzerland, Germany and Austria-Hungary.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,339. Trade and Agriculture of Santa Marta, 1904.

Increased imports attributable to the value of steel rails imported by the Santa Marta Railway Company, Limited, and to general improvement in business.

Scarcity of labour retarding coffee, sugar, and other industries as well as experiments in cotton cultivation.

Returns of imports and exports by countries.

No. 3,341. Trade of Hakodate, 1904.

Effect of war on the distribution of trade.

Analysis of imports and exports.

Trade of Otaru and Muroran.

Shipping returns.

Railway and other communications.

Graving dock facilities.

Returns of imports and exports: (*a*) principal articles; (*b*) by countries.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Egypt. No. 1 (1905). *Reports on the Finances, Administration and Condition of Egypt and the Soudan in* 1904. [*Cd.* 2,409.] *Price* 1*s.* 3*d.*

This publication contains an exhaustive report by H.M. Agent and Consul-General at Cairo on the progress of the various Administrative Departments of the Egyptian Government during 1904. Details are given of the accounts for 1904, the General Reserve Fund, the Special Reserve Fund, the Egyptian Debt, &c. A summary of the financial situation shows an estimated surplus of £E500,000 for 1905. Reports on railways, irrigation works and the mining industry are included, together with a special note on the Basin Conversion Works, and the results obtained by the construction of the reservoirs. The total value of the imports (exclusive of tobacco) amounted in 1904 to £E19,889,000, or £E3,742,000 more than in 1903; and of the exports, £E20,316,000, or £E1,200,000 more than in 1903.

The administration, trade, finances and present condition of the Soudan are dealt with in a separate report. Details of the progress made in cotton cultivation are given.

Africa. No. 4 (1905). *Reports on the Government Farms at Nairobi and Naivasha, East Africa Protectorate, for the year* 1904, *and on the Prospects for Settlers.* [*Cd.* 2,410.] *Price* 1*s.* 1*d.*

This publication contains reports from the Director of Agriculture on the Government farms at Nairobi and Naivasha, giving details regarding stock, planting, cultivation, &c., and showing the success that has attended the distribution of seeds and young plants for experimental purposes. Tables of rainfall and temperature are given.

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Government Publications.

There is also contained in this publication a separate report relating to the prospects of settlers in East Africa. Particulars are included of capital required, cost of living and of labour, acquisition of land, suitable crops or stock, &c.

Coal Exports, &c., Return. 112 *pp. Price* 4*d.*

This return, which is issued annually, contains statistics showing the quantity of coal exported from the various ports of the United Kingdom to countries abroad during each quarter of the years 1903 and 1904, as well as the quantity shipped at each port for the use of vessels on foreign voyages during the same periods. The return also contains a summary statement, showing the shipments of coal from the principal districts of the United Kingdom to various groups of foreign countries and British Possessions during each quarter of 1903 and 1904.

Railway Accidents. Returns of Accidents and Casualties as reported to the Board of Trade by the several Railway Companies in the United Kingdom during the three months ending 31*st December,* 1904. [*Cd.* 2,465.] *Price* 5*d.*

These returns show that during the three months ending 31st December, 1904, 291 persons were killed and 2,010 injured on railways in the United Kingdom in the course of public traffic, the figures for the corresponding period of 1903 being 284 and 1,733 respectively. The figures for the whole year were:—killed, 1,073; injured, 6,885; as compared with:—killed, 1,159; and injured, 6,785 in 1903.

Twenty-six persons were killed and 3,220 injured during the three months ending 31st December, 1904, as compared with 16 killed and 3,272 injured during the corresponding period of 1903, in accidents which occurred upon railway premises but in which the movement of vehicles used exclusively upon railways was not concerned. The total number of accidents of this description in the year 1904 amounted to 12 passengers, 32 servants and 41 other persons killed, and 818 passengers, 10,590 servants and 455 other persons injured, as against 8 passengers, 42 servants and 33 other persons killed, and 732 passengers, 10,551 servants and 489 other persons injured in the year 1903.

Reports by the inspecting officers, &c., of the Board of Trade upon certain accidents which were enquired into are appended to the returns.

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Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—	
	Austria-Hungary:	
3328	Trieste, 1904	1½*d.*
	Belgium:	
3327	Antwerp—Shipping ...1904	7½*d.*
3325	Belgium—Finances 1904–05	1*d.*
	Denmark:	
3324	Denmark (Supplementary) 1903	½*d.*
	France:	
3330	Brest 1904	1½*d.*
3336	Nantes 1904	1*d.*
	German Empire and Colonies:	
3333	Germany 1904	3*d.*
624	*Memorandum on German Cement*	½*d.*
630	*Technical Instruction in Germany: Supplementary and Miscellaneous* ...	*4d.*
	Italy:	
3320	Italy 1903	1½*d.*
3338	Italy—Finances ...1904	1½*d.*
3323	South Italy 1904	1½*d.*
632	*Silk Trade and Yield of Cocoons in 1904*	*1d.*
	Netherlands:	
3331	Amsterdam 1904	1*d.*
	Russia:	
628	*Cultivation of Tea in the Caucasus*	½*d.*
	Servia:	
3329	Servia 1903	1½*d.*
	AFRICA—	
3321	Somaliland Protectorate... ... 1903–04	3*d.*
3322	Tangier and District ...	1½*d.*
	AMERICA, NORTH—	
	United States of America:	
3326	Baltimore 1904	1½*d.*
625	*Rice Industry in the United States*	*2d.*
626	*Iron and Steel Exhibits at the St. Louis Exhibition* ...	2½*d.*
627	*United States Railways* ...	2½*d.*
631	*Coal Industry of the United States, 1903*	2½*d.*
	Mexico:	
3332	Mexico 1903	2½*d.*
	AMERICA, CENTRAL—	
3334	Honduras: Trade and Agriculture ... 1903–4	1*d.*
3337	Nicaragua ... 1903 & 1904	2*d.*
	AMERICA, SOUTH—	
3339	Colombia: Trade and Agriculture of Santa Marta... 1904	½*d.*
	ASIA—	
	China:	
3335	Teng Yueh 1904	½*d.*
629	*Cotton Mills of China* ...	*2d.*
	Japan:	
3341	Hakodate 1904	1½*d.*

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Government Publications.

Treaty Series.

The following numbers of the Treaty Series issued since the 1st January, 1905, may also be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

No.	———	Price.
	EUROPE— France:	
3	Agreements between the United Kingdom and France referring to Arbitration the question of the Grant of the French flag to Muscat Dhows...	½*d.*
5	Convention between the United Kingdom and France respecting Newfoundland and West and Central Africa ...	1*d.*
6	Declaration between the United Kingdom and France respecting Egypt and Morocco	1½*d.*
7	Declaration between the United Kingdom and France concerning Siam, Madagascar, and the New Hebrides ...	½*d.*
	Norway:	
8	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Norway respecting telegraphic communication between the two countries...	½*d.*
	Russia:	
2	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Russia respecting Joint Stock Companies and other commercial, industrial, and financial associations	½*d.*
	AMERICA, NORTH— Mexico:	
4	Convention between the United Kingdom and Mexico respecting Postal Rates upon letters passing between New Zealand and Mexico	½*d.*
	WEST INDIES— Cuba:	
1	Accession of Cuba to arrangements respecting false indications of origin on goods and the International Registration of Trade Marks	½*d.*

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1905, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Among the branches of work now carried on by the Imperial Institute at South Kensington are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which are exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Imperial Institute Bulletin," issued quarterly, contains information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

March, 1905.

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SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

March, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

To Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

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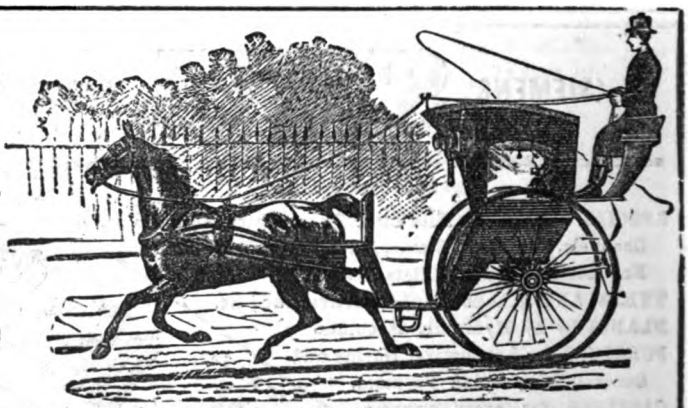

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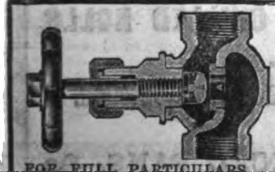
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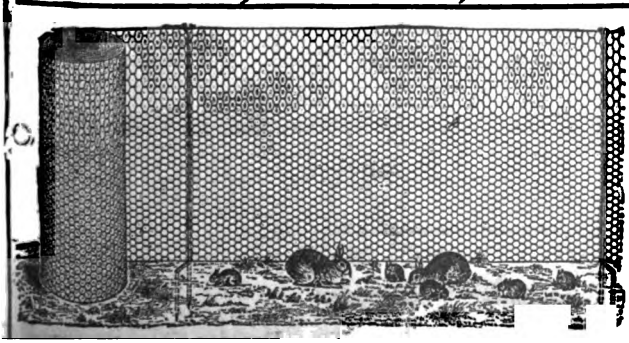

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Weldless Steel Tubing—
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Wheels—
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Mersey White Lead Co., Ltd., Warrington ... ...
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Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow ... ...
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Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield 21
Dugard Bros., Birmingham (Brass and Copper) 17
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham (Wire Nails, Rods, Bars, Hoops, &c.) 25
Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...
Shipman, J., & Co., Attercliffe, Sheffield ... ...

Wire Rope Manufacturers—
Cradock, G., & Co., Wakefield 21
Lewis, Joseph, 5 & 6, Great Winchester-street, London, E.C. ... ...

Wireworkers and Weavers—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich 15
Power, F. A., & Son, Saltley, Birmingham ... ...

Wood Block Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Wood Stains—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E.
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Wolsey Unshrinkable Wool-Underwear—
Walker, R., & Sons, Rutland Street, Leicester ... ...

Wool Importers—
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ADVERTISERS' NOTICES.

The following Admiralty Charts have recently been newly issued, or so largely corrected as to render a new Chart desirable. The date of the alteration is notified in the centre of the bottom of the Chart.

NOTE.—Charts that have received such alterations as can usually be made by hand on the Charts in use, in agreement with the "Notices to Mariners," are not described in the List below. The date of such alteration is shown at the left hand lower corner of the Chart.

Chart No.	Title of Chart, and Nature and Subject of Correction.
2076	Scotland, W., Loch Eriboll. New chart, February.
1773	Ireland, S., Queenstown and Port of Cork, Inner Sheet. Buoys and light, January.
3479	Gulf of Finland, Channels leading to Viborg. New chart, March.
180	Sicily, plans on the coast, Taormina Road. New chart, February.
2074	Mediterranean, Cyprus. Plan, Kyrenia, January.
1996	Adriatic, plans on the Eastern Shore, Fiume. Large corrections, March.
2401	Sea of Marmora, plan Buyuk Chekmejeh Bay. Plan Beikos, Umur, and Buyukdéré Bays, Bosporus, added, February.
1198	The Bosporus. New chart, March.
445	Black Sea, Pyrgos or Burghaz Bay. Burghaz Harbour, March.
146	Africa, W., Gulf of Guinea, Niger River, Nun Ent. New chart, February.
3478	" " " mouth Brass River. New chart, February.
3476	Bay of Bengal, E. Coast, Naaf River. New chart, February.
821	" " E., sheet i., Elephant Point to Chedúba Strait. Large corrections, February.
824	" " " White Point to Mergui. Hinze Basin, February.
1394	China Sea, Malay Peninsula, plans on the E. coast. Plan, entrance to Kuantan River, February.
933	Eastern Archipelago, Java, N., Batavia Boads. Middleburg to Old Roadstead, February.
3475	Philippine Islands, plans on the S.E. coast of Luzon, Matnog Bay and Siklin Strait, Port Gubat. New chart, February.
2412	China and Japan, Amoy to Nagasaki, including the Yang tse Kiang and the islands between Formosa and Japan. Great Yang tse Bank, February.
1199	China, E., Kue Shan Islands to the Yang tse Kiang, including Chusan Archipelago. Great Yang tse Bank, February.
1236	China, Pe Chili Strait, approaches to Port Arthur or Lu Shun Kau. Large corrections, February.
3112	Japan, Kiusiu, W., Misumi Ko Fukin. Large corrections, March.
2511	Russian Tartary, Strelok Bay to Mosolova Point. New chart, March.
3254	Australia, N., Carpentaria Gulf, Norman River entrance. Dredged channel and beacons line, February.
2731	Australia, S., Port Phillip, Geelong Harbour. Large corrections, March.
2747	" Victoria, entrance to Port Phillip. W. part of S. channel, February. Two charts.
2463	N. America, W., Alaska, Alexander Archipelago, Port Arthur to Windham Bay. Large corrections, February.
1319	S. America, W., Concepcion Bay. Large corrections, March.
1938	" E., Rio de la Plata, Uruguay River from Martin Garcia to Salto Grande. General amendments throughout, March.
1148	West Indies, Puerto Rico Island, Ponce Harbour. General amendments, February.
435	" Cuba, Eastern end, ports and anchorages. Plan Port Escondido or Hidden Harbour, January.
321	Lake Superior, part of the N. Coast from Grand Portage Bay to Hawk Islet, including Isle Royale. Thunder Bay, February.

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Chairman, Lord Edmund Talbot, M.P. *Managing Director*, Sir William Thomas Lewis, Bart. *Superintendent*, James Kerr.

AREA, etc.—The present BUTE DOCKS are 111 acres in extent, and vessels loading up to 12,000 tons regularly trade there.

The NEW SOUTH DOCK, which is rapidly approaching completion, will have a water area of 50 acres. It is 2,500 feet in length, 500 feet in breadth, and 50 feet in depth from the coping; and will be capable of accommodating the LARGEST VESSELS AFLOAT. The Sea Lock will be 850 FEET IN LENGTH, and 80 FEET IN BREADTH, with a depth of water over the cill of 42 FEET at ordinary spring tides, and 32 FEET at ordinary neap tides. Two Large Graving Docks, up to 800 FEET IN LENGTH, and entered from THE DOCK, are about to be constructed.

MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES.—The Bute Docks are equipped with the most IMPROVED Appliances for the discharging and loading of vessels with dispatch; the greater portion being worked by HYDRAULIC PRESSURE. There is an ample equipment of Cranes of various power up to 70 TONS, as well as Grain Elevators, &c., &c.

Special attention may be drawn to the NEW 70-TON CRANE in the ROATH DOCK, thus enabling THE CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY to ship or unship THE HEAVIEST WEIGHTS.

COAL SHIPPING FACILITIES.—Coal is being shipped at these Docks by the ordinary Fixed, as well as Moveable Staiths; as also by the LEWIS-HUNTER PATENT COALING CRANES. The Cardiff Railway Company have the EXCLUSIVE use in the Bristol Channel of the LEWIS-HUNTER Coaling Cranes, which have proved by far the most satisfactory appliances for shipping Welsh Coal, with dispatch and the Least Possible Breakage. Colliery screened coal shipped by these cranes being equal to double screened coal shipped by ordinary Staiths, and thereby ensuring to the purchaser an INCREASED VALUE OF AT LEAST ONE SHILLING per ton over that of coal put on board by shipping appliances at other Docks, besides ensuring great SAVING IN BREAKAGE and uniformity of distribution throughout the cargo of any small coal that might exist; thus minimising any risk of spontaneous ignition from small coal in cargoes bound for distant ports. THREE OR MORE CRANES can be worked simultaneously into one vessel, and as much as 330 TONS have been shipped by one crane in an hour, and 4,773 TONS have been shipped into a vessel in 10 HOURS. Shippers attach so much importance to the advantages of these Cranes that they frequently elect to wait some time for a CRANE BERTH rather than have their coal shipped by the usual staiths.

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WAREHOUSES AND TRANSIT SHEDS.—Good accommodation for the storage of GRAIN, PROVISIONS, &c., &c., BONDED AND FREE.

WHARF SPACE AND YARDS.—Large provision is made for stacking Timber, Deals, Iron Ore, &c. Timber Ponds, 26 ACRES in extent, with COMPETITIVE RAILWAY COMMUNICATION TO ALL PARTS.

FACILITIES FOR SHIP REPAIRS, etc.—There are 10 PRIVATE GRAVING AND FLOATING DOCKS, ranging up to 800 feet in length, with SEPARATE PROPRIETARIES, and one PUBLIC GRAVING DOCK 600 FEET in length. There are also several MARINE ENGINEERING FIRMS, thus giving Shipowners an opportunity of obtaining tenders for repairs of every description.

RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION.—CARDIFF is the NATURAL PORT for BIRMINGHAM and the MIDLAND DISTRICT, as the London & North Western, Midland, and Great Western Railway Companies have direct communication from the Ship's Side.

DOCK CHARGES.—These are much below the average of our Great Ports. Vessels can generally procure an outward cargo to any PORT in the WORLD, thus giving the Bute Docks an advantage for Imports, as vessels do not require to change Ports.

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CATTLE IMPORTATION.—The BUTE DOCKS are the ONLY DOCKS in South Wales which have permission from the BOARD OF TRADE to land FOREIGN CATTLE. Excellent CATTLE LAIRS, SLAUGHTER HOUSES, and CHILL ROOMS are erected adjacent to the Wharf in the deepest-water dock, with Railways leading into them, having communication with all PARTS.

COLD STORAGE.—Ample Accommodation of the most modern description is provided for the storage of dead meat, poultry, provisions, vegetables, &c.

STATUS OF CARDIFF.—CARDIFF now occupies the position of being the FIRST PORT in the UNITED KINGDOM for shipping cleared to FOREIGN COUNTRIES and BRITISH POSSESSIONS and the PREMIER PORT in the WORLD for the SHIPMENT OF COAL.

NOTE.—The Bute Docks are the only Docks situated in the Town of Cardiff. Vessels using the Bute Docks thereby save their owners and Captains from loss of time in making journeys between the Vessels and the Merchants' and brokers' Offices, Banks, Custom House, Post Office, &c., all of which Offices are adjacent to the Bute Docks.

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THE Board of Trade Journal

BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL. 27TH APRIL, 1905.

OFFICES OF COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF BOARD OF TRADE, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

See notice on page 189 within.

HOW TO FIND INFORMATION AS TO

1 & 2. Customs Tariffs	In the United Kingdom.
3. Customs Receipts	
4. Average Prices	
5. Imports and Exports	
6. Growth and Movement of Population ...	
7. Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour ...	
8. Customs Tariffs	In the Colonies and India.
9. Preferential Tariff (Canada)	
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11. Customs Tariffs	In Foreign Countries.
12. Imports and Exports	

13. Trade between the United Kingdom and Germany.
14. Trade and Population of the United Kingdom, United States, Germany and France, Compared.
15. State of British and Foreign Trade and Industry.
16. Naval Expenditure and Mercantile Marine, &c., of Great Britain and self-governing Colonies, and certain Foreign Countries

SEE PAGES 185-6 WITHIN.

For Shippers' and Manufacturers' Advertisements, &c. (Index of), see pages ix.-xxiv. *of Ad*

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Chairman, Lord Edmund Talbot, M.P. *Managing Director*, Sir William Thomas Lewis, Bart. *Superintendent*, James Hurman.

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THE Board of Trade Journal

(With which is incorporated the "Imperial Institute Journal.")

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

APRIL 27, 1905.

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1,510 ft. of 15-in. Soil Sewer,
80 ft. of 15-in. Cast Iron Sewer,
807 ft. of 15-in Surface-Water Sewer,
1,185 ft. of 12-in. Surface-Water Sewer,
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For Ireland— MUNSTER, SIMMS & Co.,
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And from their sub-agents, MESSRS. G. STREET & CO., LTD., 30, CORNHILL, LONDON, E.C.;
OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH; or,
EDWARD PONSONBY, 116, GRAFTON STREET, DUBLIN.

I.—ANNUAL PUBLICATIONS:—

Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions for the Year 1903 compared with the four preceding years. Volume I. [Cd. 2043/04.] Price 7*s.* 1*d.* Volume II. [Cd. 2081/04.] Price 5*s.*

Annual Statement of the Navigation and Shipping of the United Kingdom for the Year 1903 [Cd. 2122/04.] Price 3*s.* 2*d.*

Bankruptcy. Report for the Year 1903. [312/04.] Price 9d.

Coal Exports for 1904. [112/1905.] Price 4*d.*

Coal Tables.—Statistical Tables and Report relating to Coal and Petroleum Production in the Principal Countries of the World, 1883—1903. [295/04.] Price 5½*d.*

Colonial Import Duties Return, 1904. [Cd. 2185/04.] Price 2*s.* 1*d.*

Companies (Winding Up). Thirteenth Annual Report. [311/1904.] Price 6*d.*

Emigration and Immigration.—Statistical Tables and Report, 1903. [145/04.] Price 8*d.*

Extracts from Diplomatic and Consular Reports. Coal. [348.] Price 8*d.*

Foreign Import Duties, 1904. [Cd. 2340/05.] Price 2*s.*

Index to Consular Reports, 1903. [Cd. 2148/04.] Price 1*s.*

Iron and Steel, 1903. Statistical Tables. [244/1904.] Price 3*d.*

Labour Department.—Ninth Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom. 1901—02. [Cd. 1755/03.] Price 1*s.*

Labour Department.—Changes in Wages and Hours of Labour. [Cd. 2199/04.] Price 7*d.*

Labour Department.—Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on the Strikes and Lock-outs of 1903, with Statistical Tables. [Cd. 2112/04.] Price 7*d.*

Life Assurance Companies' Return, 1904. [I./1905.] Price 3*s.*

Patent Office.—Report for the Year 1903. [178/04.] Price 5½*d.*

Railway Returns for the United Kingdom, 1903. [Cd. 2193/04.] Price 1*s.* 4*d.*

Shipping Casualties—Abstracts of Returns of Shipping Casualties on or near the Coasts of the United Kingdom, 1902-03 (with Charts and Appendices). [Cd. 2212/04.] Price 4*s.* 7*d.*

Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom. 1889-1903. [Cd. 2192/1904.] Price 1*s.* 3d.

Statistical Abstract for the British Empire, 1889-1903. [Cd. 2395.] Price 6*d.*

Statistical Abstract for the Colonies. 1889-1903. [Cd. 1912/04.] Price 1*s.* 10*d.*

Statistical Abstract for Foreign Countries. 1892 to 1901-02. [Cd. 2202/04.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

Statistical Tables relating to British Colonies, Possessions, and Protectorates. Part XXVII. 1902. [Cd. 2184/04.] Price 7*s.*

Tables showing the Progress of Merchant Shipping in the United Kingdom and the principal maritime countries, 1903. [294/1904.] Price 9*d.*

Tramways and Light Railways (Street and Road) Return. [310/05.] Price 6*d.*

II.—MONTHLY RETURNS—

Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for each month during the Year. March, 1905. [25-II/05.] Price 1*s.*

Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions. [103/1905.] Price 4½*d.*

III.—OCCASIONAL RETURNS:—

Alcoholic Beverages.—Production and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages (Wine, Beer, and Spirits) in the various European Countries and United States. [345/1904.] Price 9*d.*

British and Foreign Trade and Industry Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts. [Cd. 1761/1903.] Price 3*s.* 6*d.*

British and Foreign Trade and Industry. Second Series of Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts. [Cd. 2337.] Price 3*s.* 6*d.*

British Colonies (Duties on Imports). No. 299/03. Price ½*d.*

Canada (Preferential Tariff for Goods from the United Kingdom). 310/03. Price ½*d.*

Certificates of Origin. Memorandum. [Cd. 1446/03.] Price 3*d.*

Commercial Mission to South Africa.—Report from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [Cd. 1844/03.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

Commercial Mission to South America.—Reports from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. Brazil [Cd. 9160/98 and 9161/99.] Price 3*d.* each. Uruguay. [Cd. 9298/99.] Price 3*d.*

Commercial Mission to Persia.—Reports from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [Cd. 2146.] Price 1*s.* 3*d.* [Cd. 2281.] Price 1½*d.*

Commercial Travellers. Memorandum. [Cd. 1961.] Price 3*d.*

Continental Free Ports. Return. 344. Price 2½*d.*

Exports from the United Kingdom of Woollen and Cotton Goods and Cutlery in 1877, 1882, 1887, &c., and 1902. [327/03.] Price ½*d.*

Food Supplies (Imported) Return. 179/03.] Price 4½*d.*

German Tariff (New) as modified by Treaties. [Cd. 2414.] Price 1*s.* 10*d.*

Imports and Exports of United Kingdom by Groups of Countries. [214/1903.] Price ½*d.*

Labour Department.—Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on Trade Unions in 1901, with Comparative Statistics. [Cd. 1348/02.] Price 11½*d.*

Preferential Trade Return, showing the advantages granted to other countries in States where British trade does not enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment. [329/1903.] Price 1½*d.*

Report to the Board of Trade by the Advisory Committee on Commercial Intelligence, with reference to their Proceedings. [Cd. 2,044/04.] Price 4½*d.*

Tea and Coffee.—Statement showing the Imports of Tea and Coffee into the principal Countries of Europe, the United States, and British Colonies. [363/1902.] Price 6*d.*

Trade between the United Kingdom, Canada and Germany. Return. [328/1903.] Price 4*d.*

Trade of the United Kingdom with Germany. [131.] Price 1½*d.*

Trade of British Colonies with Foreign Countries. [110/1904.] Price 2*d.*

Trade (Colonies and United Kingdom). Return. [262/03.] Price 2*d.*

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Board of Trade Journal.

APRIL 27TH, 1905.

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLIX.] April 27, 1905. [No. 439

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 189.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where there are at present on view, among other exhibits, samples of tobacco grown in Jamaica, and samples of cotton grown within the Empire, viz., eleven received from the British Cotton Growing Association, three from the West India Committee, and eleven from the Imperial Institute.

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 190.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A cold storage company in the north of England are seeking to establish business relations with Canadian exporters of produce.

A firm of manufacturers' agents in a position to push the sale of joinery, wheelbarrows, skewers, &c., are desirous of representing a few Canadian houses.

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Openings for British Trade.

A gentleman with good commercial experience, who is leaving for Canada shortly, desires to take up the agencies for one or two good English firms requiring representation in the Dominion.

Canadian Enquiries.—A Toronto firm just starting in the drug trade are seeking the representation of English exporters of hospital supplies and druggists' sundries generally.

A Canadian firm of lumber exporters desire to hear from British and Continental buyers of maple flooring, bass broom handles, piano keyboards, bobbins, dowels, &c.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Petrol-driven Motor Coach.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified that tenders will be received by the Agent-General for South Australia up to 1 p.m. on Monday, 8th May, 1905, for the supply and delivery of a petrol-driven motor coach, for use on the Kingston and Naracoorte Railway.

The carriage is to carry eight first and ten second class passengers.

The highest speed required will be 30 miles per hour.

The control gear is to be at the end of the car only.

The coach must carry sufficient water, petrol, &c., for the round trip of 40 miles from Bull Island to Kingston and back to Bull Island.

All parts of the coach must clear the minimum structure, due allowance being made for wear and for movements on the curves.

Tenderers should forward with their tenders a detailed specification and sketch of the coach tendered for.

Diagrams (two), received from the Agent-General, may be examined at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

CAPE COLONY.

Hardwood Timber.

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 4th April, contains a notice to the effect that tenders are invited by the Cape Government Railways for the supply of about 12,000 cubic feet of sawn timber ("hardwood timber") and 133 piles required for the service of the Railway Department.

Forms of tender, conditions of contract and all particulars may be obtained at the Railway Stores, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth and East London.

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Openings for British Trade.

Sealed tenders, addressed to the Chairman of the Tender Board, Control and Audit Office, Parliament Street, Cape Town, and marked outside "Tender for Timber," will be received up to noon on Wednesday, 31st May, 1905. The lowest or any tender not necessarily accepted.

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

Railway Material.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies, acting on behalf of the Government of the Federated Malay States, invite tenders from manufacturers as follows:—

(1) About 7,783 tons of steel rails (80 lbs.), and 681 tons fish plates; and (2) about 73 tons fish bolts and nuts, and 185 tons dog spikes.

Specifications and conditions of contract can be obtained at the Office of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, S.W., on and after Monday, 1st May, 1905, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

A charge of 1*l.* will be made for each specification. This sum will be returned to each person or firm submitting a *bonâ fide* tender properly completed in all respects within the time specified below.

Tenders are to be delivered in sealed envelopes addressed to The Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, S.W., not later than noon on 17th May, endorsed "Tenders for Permanent Way Materials."

The Crown Agents do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

EGYPT.

Paper and Envelopes.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" announces that tenders will be received at the Central Office of the Egyptian Ministry of Finance for the supply of paper and envelopes required for the various Government departments during the years 1906, 1907 and 1908.

Persons wishing to tender should address themselves to the "Direction du Secrétariat" at the Finance Ministry, Cairo, in order to consult the conditions and specification of the supply and examine samples.

Tenders will be received until the 15th June, 1905, at noon.

RUSSIA.

Machinery for the Manufacture of Fishing Nets.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at St. Petersburg (Mr. O. Wardrop) that he has received an enquiry for the names of British dealers in machinery for the manufacture of fishing nets. Communications, enclosing catalogues, should be addressed to His Britannic Majesty's Consul, British Consulate, St. Petersburg.

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Openings for British Trade.

RUSSIA—*continued.*

Ice-Breaker.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) forwards an extract from the "Novoe Vremya" of St. Petersburg, referring to the insufficiency of the newly constructed Circum-Baikal line for the present military necessities, and to the further need for a long period yet of the ice-breakers for the passage across the lake. In order to supplement the existing two ice-breakers in use, it is stated that the Minister of Ways has decided to order a third of still greater power and tonnage. A Russian engineer is reported to be at present occupied at St. Petersburg in connection with the construction of this third ice-breaker.

It may be noted that the existing ice-breakers were constructed by British yards and despatched to the Lake in parts.

RUSSIA—SIBERIA.

Projected Amour Railway.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) forwards an extract from the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette," of St. Petersburg to the effect that a special commission assembled at Khabarovsk (Eastern Siberia), are considering an application for the organisation of a share company for the purpose of the construction of the Amour Railway. The sum necessary for the realisation of the project is estimated by the initiators at 177,000,000 roubles.

Mr. Cooke remarks that this would be the railway from Sretensk, the present branch terminus of the Siberian line in that direction, to Blagovestchensk and Khabarovsk, along the course of the Shilka and Amour, the original line it was proposed to construct till the well-known agreement with China afforded Russia a shorter cut to the Far East.

NORWAY.

Coal.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul-General at Christiania (Viscount Melville) that tenders will be received up to noon on the 10th May, by the Director of the Christiania gasworks, for the supply of 40,000 tons of New Pelton, Old Pelton, New Pelaw, Pelaw Main, Londonderry, Benwell, Holmside, West Leversen, Thornley, or similar gas coal, to be delivered f.o.b. inclusive of export duty and town dues, at Tyne Dock or other English port, with which steamship connection can with safety be counted on. Conditions of tender can be inspected by agents calling at the Gasworks Offices, where sealed tenders marked "Anbud paa Kul" will be received.

A copy of the conditions of tender may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

NETHERLANDS.

Agricultural Implements.

The United States Consul-General at Frankfort reports the establishment of the following new agricultural banks in the Netherlands, and suggests that it might be well for exporters of agricultural implements to communicate with them:—Co-operative Boevenleenbank, Schoorl; the Co-operative Boevenleenbank, Edam; and the Co-operative Onderlinge Spar-en Voorschotbank, Broek op Langendyk.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) of 19th April states that tenders are invited for the supply and installation of the electrical apparatus necessary for the establishment of electric tramways (overhead system) in Utrecht. Tenders, in sealed envelopes, inscribed "Offres pour la fourniture et la pose de l'équipement électrique du réseau aérien avec tous les accessoires pour les tramways électriques d'Utrecht," must reach the Burgomaster not later than the 6th May. Specifications, &c., may be obtained from the Secretary to the Municipality, Utrecht, on payment of 2½ florins (about 4*s*. 2*d*.).

BELGIUM.

General Conditions for Government Contracts.

In connection with the notices of tender for Belgian Government contracts which are published from time to time in the "Board of Trade Journal," the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade desire to direct attention to the fact that a complete set of the "Cahiers des charges généraux et types," upon which all tenders for Government work are based, has been received from H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Mr. E. C. Hertslet). These "cahiers" may be consulted at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.). Intending contractors would then merely have to buy the "Cahier des charges spécial" and the samples, if any, applicable to the particular contract which interests them. These may be obtained on application to the "Bureau des Adjudications, Musée Commercial, rue des Augustins, Brussels," enclosing a remittance for cost and postage.

Railway Bridge Construction.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" of 23rd April contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 24th May, for the construction of a railway bridge over the line from Antwerp to Douai, in connection with the local railway from Antwerp to Lierre. The cost of the work is estimated at 109,577 frs. (about 4,383*l*.). A

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Openings for British Trade.

deposit of 11,000 frs. (about 440*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Tenders, in registered envelopes addressed to "M. le Directeur Général, Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux, 14 rue de la Science, Brussels," must be posted not later than 23rd May. Plans, specifications, &c., may be inspected at the above address, whence a copy of the specifications may be obtained on payment of one franc.

PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

Railway Construction.

The "Diario do Governo" of 15th April, contains a Decree authorising the Government to raise a loan of 1,500,000 milreis (about 603,125*l.*) for the construction of a railway from the port of Mossamedes to the plain of Chella, in the province of Angola.

SPAIN.

Building Construction.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 16th April, contains a notice calling for tenders, which will be opened simultaneously on the 22nd May at the Directorate General of Local Administration, and at the "Casas Consistoriales," Tarrasa, for the construction of a market place in that town, at the upset price of 314,020 pesetas (about 9,401*l.*), in accordance with plans to be seen at the Directorate General of Local Administration, Tarrasa. A deposit of 15,701 pesetas (about 470*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

The "Gaceta" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

N.B.—It is notified from H.M. Embassy at Madrid that a foreigner, when entering into contracts for the performance of public works in Spain, must renounce by public act all rights to which he might be entitled by virtue of the law of his own country in so far as his contract is concerned, and accept any administrative decisions that may be issued respecting questions arising from that contract.

In entering into such contracts a local agent is a practical necessity.

Steam and Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 20th April announces that the following applications, accompanied by plans and guarantees, have been received at the Directorate-General of Public Works, Madrid:—(1) an application from Don Gregorio Sánchez Unanue for a concession for a steam tramway in Granada; (2) an application from the Biscay Electricity Company for a concession for an

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electric tramway, for the carriage of goods, in Bilbao. One month from the date of the publication of these announcements in the "Gaceta" is allowed for the presentation of applications, accompanied by their corresponding plans and guarantees, upon terms more favourable to the Government.

ITALY.

The following particulars of openings for British trade in Italy are extracted from the recent report of H.M. Consul at Venice (Mr. E. de Zuccato):—

Cold Storage Plant.

"Dried salted herrings, pilchards and sardines chiefly arrive from Scotland in barrels for distribution to the peasantry in the Venetian provinces. A great impediment to this branch of trade is the absence of cold stores in this town. It is consequently necessary in summer to send perishable dried fish to the neighbouring districts, where there are natural cold caverns.

Eels and Soles for British Market.

"There should be an opening for the export to the United Kingdom of eels, which are abundant, as they are brought here from the preserved fisheries in the valleys, and of soles, which are brought to the market in great quantities. . . . A great quantity is exported to Austria-Hungary and Germany. . . . .

Wire.

"The use of telegraph, telephone, hydro-electrical and fencing wires has also enormously increased during the last few years, but I am informed that such wires are either made in Italy or imported from Germany, Belgium and France. . . . . .

Frozen Meat from Australia.

"It has lately been announced that the Italian General Steam Navigation Company will provide their steamers with refrigerating compartments. There should then be an opening for importing into Italy fresh meat from Australia. I have no doubt that, considering the high price of local meat, it would be favourably received by the population. . . . . .

Railway Material.

"It has been announced that the Government has already authorised, on strategical grounds, with the concurrence of the communes concerned, the prolongation of the railway from Belluno to the upper part of Cadore through Longarone and Perarlo.

Electric Tramway and Railway Material.

"There are several projects mooted for the institution of electric trams in the Venetian provinces. One, which would be undertaken by a Berlin firm, to construct branch lines starting from Venice, Padua and Treviso in different directions,

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Openings for British Trade.

ITALY—*continued.*

chiefly through districts not traversed by the railway. At Verona there is a project to build an electrical railway to pass through Lazise to Riva di Trento, apparently to join the main line of the railway. The Belgian company, which has the concession for running the horse tramways in Verona, will transform them into electrical lines. The force will be derived from the River Milani, which will provide sufficient power not only to propel the carriages in the town, but also to transform the steam tram line Verona-Cologna into an electrical one. Other projects are under discussion at Vicenza, Udine and Belluno, and as waterfalls are plentiful in the Venetian region, there will probably be a great development of electrical lines in future, unless modern invention provides economically running motor cars, as no tracks would be required for them." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,340.)

River Improvement Works.

See notice on p. 171.

Purchase for Export of Tobacco Extract.

Referring to the notice on p. 100 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 20th April, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are informed, by the Italian Chamber of Commerce in London, that the international adjudication by tender of the contract for the sale of tobacco extract will be held on the 15th June next, at 10 a.m., in the offices of the Direzione Generale delle Privative, Rome. The Administration of the State Monopoly will put at the disposal of the contractor a yearly supply of the standard quality of extract, which will never be less than 5,000 cwts., nor more than 7,000 cwts. This standard quality will contain 1 per cent. of carbolic acid, and from 8½ to 9 per cent. of nicotine, which will be determined according to the analytical process of Professor Ulex of Hamburg.

Both Italian and foreign firms will be allowed to compete. The contract will last for the period of six years.

As mentioned in the notice referred to above, the conditions of contract may be obtained on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

MEXICO.

Hydro-electric Power Plant.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico of 29th March contains an application from Señor Emilio Pinzon, representing the San Ildefonso Hydro-Electric Power Co., for an appropriation of water from the rivers Los Tachos and Monte Alto, in the State of Mexico, for irrigation and industrial purposes.

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Openings for British Trade.

The "Diario" of 3rd April notifies an application from Señor Andrés Lefebvre, for an appropriation of 600 litres of water per second from the river Pescado and its tributary, the Pextlan, in the State of Veracruz, for the production of motive power.

The "Diario" of 4th April notifies a concession granted to the Golfo del Oro Mining Company, for the appropriation of 400 litres per second from the river Yaqui, District of Alamos, State of Sonora, for the production of power for smelting and other industrial purposes.

NICARAGUA.

Boots and Shoes.

H.M. Consul at Greytown (Mr. H. F. Bingham), in his report on the trade of Nicaragua for the years 1903-04, states that a noticeable item in the list of imports is that of boots and shoes, of the sale of which the United States of America have almost a complete monopoly. Until recently, these goods were imported from Austria-Hungary, a few coming from the United Kingdom, France and Germany. Most of the better class of boots and shoes now imported into Nicaragua come from New Orleans; they are of good appearance and quality, each pair being put up in an attractive paper box and costing from 6*s*. to 8*s*. Boots for working men or brogues chiefly come from Boston, Mass., and cost about 4*s*. per pair.

Hardware.

In the heavier class of hardware the cheaper freight gives an advantage to the United States of America, but, in the opinion of the Consul, a greater amount of British cutlery might be introduced. "Machetes," of which a large quantity are sold, and which are used by the peasants for nearly every agricultural and household purpose, come mostly from a Connecticut firm, which also supplies most of the axes. The greater quantity of pocket knives and scissors come from Germany, and are usually of an inferior quality.

Beer.

Beer comes from the United States of America and Germany, but the sale of British beer might be pushed to advantage on the Atlantic coast, where there are many natives of the British West Indies who prefer British beer and porter.

Soap-making Materials.

The greater part of the ordinary soap comes from the United Kingdom, but the imports have of late years been much reduced owing to the establishment of several native soap factories that turn out a fairly good article; and as the materials are admitted duty free, they are able to compete successfully in prices with the foreign soap. All the tallow and most of the materials used in the soap factories come from the United States of America.

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Openings for British Trade.

NICARAGUA—*continued.*

Leather.

The leather imports, which amounted in value during the year 1903-04 to over 6,000*l.*, are nearly equally divided between the United States of America and Germany. The classes imported are chiefly those used by bootmakers and saddlers, of whom there are many in the Republic, and who do excellent work at comparatively low prices.

Drugs.

The leading position of the United States of America in the importation of drugs is partly due to the facilities of shipment; an infinite number of American patent medicines, for the cure of every possible ill, are to be seen not only in drug shops but also in most of the stores of general merchandise. British embrocations for horses and cattle would be of considerable use in the country, but are entirely unknown. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,337.)

See also "British Trade Abroad," page 155.

HONDURAS.

Automobiles.

In his report for the year ended 30th June last, recently issued by the Foreign Office, H.M. Consul at Tegucigalpa (Mr. C. W. Campbell) states that the waggon road from Tegucigalpa to the Pacific coast is still being made, and there seems to be little doubt that in a short time a really good communication will be established in that part of the country. Already steps are being taken to procure automobiles for use on this road, and as soon as some minor details have been arranged it will be possible for the vehicles to run about 75 of the 100 miles, and the arrangement of the rest will soon be complete. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,384.)

CHILE.

Railway Plant.

With reference to the notice on p. 302 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 16th February respecting the construction of two narrow gauge branch lines from the railway between Aguas Blancas and the coast to certain nitrate "oficinas," it is noted that the "Diario Oficial" of Chile of 9th March contains a Decree authorising Don Juan Francisco Campaña, Manager of the "Oriente" Nitrate Company, to construct a line connecting one of the above-mentioned branch lines with the "oficina Oriente."

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Openings for British Trade.

BRAZIL.

Building Construction.

The "Diario Official" of Brazil of 16th March, contains a Decree sanctioning the expenditure by the Minister of Justice and Home Affairs of 600,000 milreis (about 67,500*l.*) on the re-construction of the Bahia Faculty of Medicine building.

ARGENTINA.

Waterworks Construction.

The "Boletin Oficial" of Argentina of 24th March, contains a Decree authorising the Director-General of National Sanitary Works to invite tenders for the extension of the waterworks at Catamarca, at the cost of 416,094 pesos, national currency (about 36,407*l.*).

COLOMBIA.

Railway Material.

In his recent report, the British Vice-Consul at Santa Marta (Mr. M. F. Carr) writes:—

"The only work of importance coming under the head of public works is the continuation of the railway to connect this port with the River Magdalena. The line at present open to traffic reaches to the Sevilla River, a distance of 42 miles from this port, and the total length of line constructed (including branch lines) is 50 miles. The railway reached the Sevilla River in 1894, but owing to the unsatisfactory condition of the country, culminating in the outbreak of the revolution in 1899, construction work was suspended.

"After the close of the war at the end of 1902 certain modifications in the franchise became necessary, and these were not obtained until the beginning of last year.

"Matters now being on a fairly satisfactory basis, construction work from Sevilla has been resumed." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,339.)

EXHIBITIONS.

BELGIUM.

Liége Exhibition, 1905.

With reference to the notice on pp. 589/590 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 30th March, a despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from the British Vice-Consul at Liége (Mr. E. Leeds) in course of which he states that the Liége Exhibition will be formally opened on the 27th April. The exhibition area is 830,000 square yards, 140,000 square yards of which will be under cover. The machinery hall will have a floor space of 36,000 square yards. The

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Openings for British Trade.

BELGIUM—*continued.*

largest exhibitors are Belgium, France, with 31,000 square yards and a special Horticultural Pavilion, and Germany. (For particulars as to the British Exhibit, see the issues of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 22nd December, 1904, p. 540, 29th December, 1904, p. 585, and 30th March last, pp. 589-90.)

International Congresses.

In all sixty different congresses will be held during the exhibition, a great number of which will be international. A list, giving dates and particulars of those congresses which have already been fixed, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.). The International Congress on Mining, Metallurgy, Mechanics and Geology, takes place from June 20th to July 1st, the address of the Secretary General being 16, Quai de l'Université, Liége, where particulars may be obtained.

Further dates of interest are:—

Horse Show, 30th July, 1st, 3rd and 6th August.

Butter, Cheese, &c., Show, 20th and 22nd May.

Flower Shows, 7th to 10th May, and 25th to 27th June.

Market Garden Produce (including Apples), 1st to 3rd October.

Motor-car Races, 6th to 12th August.

Motor-boats, during month of August (particulars from the Secretary, M. C. Deronchêne, Royal Sport Nautique, Liége).

Beer judging will take place about the end of July. Special cellars have been installed and the beer may now be sent to be stored. Particulars from the Secretary, Concours National et International des Bières, Liége Exhibition.

Canadian Participation.

Mr. Leeds forwards in addition a statement to the effect that Canada is erecting a special pavilion of her own, covering an area of about 100 by 150 feet, with a total floor space, including the galleries, of about 2,000 square feet. The exhibits consist principally of the natural products of Canada, a few manufactures, however, being included, and will be divided under the following heads:—Agriculture, horticulture, economic minerals, food products, forestry, agricultural implements and furniture. An expert will preside over each section, and will remain during the course of the exhibition to give full information.

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Openings for British Trade.

ITALY.

Photographic Exhibition at Genoa.

The "Moniteur Officiel du Commerce" (Paris) of 20th April states that an International Exhibition of Photography will be held at Genoa during May, 1905. All kinds of photographs—figures, portraits, landscapes, seascapes, snapshots and studies of still life—will be admitted, provided they possess artistic value. A special section is reserved for books and periodicals containing artistic photographs.

Exhibits should be addressed to the General Secretary of the International Exhibition of Photography, 18 Piazza Fontane Marose, Genoa.

BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Nicaragua.—In his report on the trade of Nicaragua, recently issued by the Foreign Office, H.M. Consul at Greytown (Mr. H. F. Bingham) writes:—

"The great proportion of trade done with the United States of America is due no doubt in great part to her proximity to Nicaragua, the comparative cheapness of the freight from American ports, and the considerable value of the imports of kerosene, flour, provisions and other articles essentially American, but a considerably larger trade in British goods than is now carried on could undoubtedly be done with the Atlantic coast of Nicaragua, the imports of which represent a large proportion of the total trade of Nicaragua. Owing to the number of fruit vessels that leave Bluefields for New Orleans, reaching that port in from four to five days, merchants have exceptional facilities for visiting the United States and personally making their purchases there, and the coast is also constantly visited by commercial travellers from New Orleans firms, who generally carry complete collections of samples. It is now some years since the representative of a British firm visited the Atlantic coast, and I have no doubt that a commercial traveller with a good range of British samples would do a profitable business on that coast, especially in the better classes of manufactures of cotton, hosiery, cloth and other manufactures of wool, and small cutlery. British travellers visiting the interior of the Republic have told me that they do not care to go to the Atlantic coast on account of the difficulties in travelling and the length of time required, but I think that the business that could be done would fully compensate a traveller for the trouble and loss of time, which need not be so great, as the next market to Nicaragua usually visited by commercial agents is Costa Rica, whose Atlantic port of Limon is easily accessible from any part of the Nicaraguan coast." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,337.)

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TRADE OF CAPE COLONY.

With reference to the statement on pp. 18-19 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 6th April, the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 24th March publishes statistics showing the value of the trade of Cape Colony during the two months ended 28th February, 1905, as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year. The following tables show the total value of the imports and exports, including transit trade in both cases, of the principal and other articles into and from the Colony during the periods above-mentioned:—

Imports into Cape Colony.*

Principal and other Articles.	Two Months ended 28th February.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Provisions of all kinds (*includes butter, cheese, chicory, coffee, meats, sugar, and tea*) ...	512,000	523,000
Metals and metal manufactures (*includes iron, lead, machinery, hardware, wire fencing, &c.*)	467,000	310,000
Corn and grain, &c. (*flour, maize, oats, wheat, and rice*)	211,000	227,000
Haberdashery	218,000	210,000
Wood, and manufactures of (*includes furniture*)	310,000	164,000
Cotton manufactures	136,000	154,000
Leather and leather manufactures (*includes boots and shoes, and saddlery and harness*)...	134,000	147,000
Wearing apparel (*includes hats*)	170,000	144,000
Stationery (*includes books*)	89,000	87,000
Alcoholic beverages (*includes wine, beer, and spirits*)	64,000	56,000
Woollen manufactures	57,000	56,000
Drugs and chemicals	45,000	40,000
Soap and candles...	38,000	37,000
Tobacco of all sorts	33,000	37,000
Carts and carriages (*includes bicycles*) ...	49,000	36,000
Pipes, iron and earthen	44,000	36,000
Agricultural implements	38,000	35,000
Oil, mineral	28,000	25,000
Cement	10,000	23,000
Animals, living	52,000	22,000
Coal, coke, and patent fuel	41,000	22,000
Confectionery (*includes jams*)	19,000	20,000
Arms and ammunition (*includes dynamite and blasting compound and powder*) ...	27,000	17,000
Earthen manufactures	20,000	17,000
Paints, varnish and turpentine...	15,000	16,000
Bags, all sorts	7,000	15,000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	15,000	12,000
Oilman stores (not edible)	12,000	12,000
Linen manufactures	8,000	9,000
All other articles of merchandise	844,000	479,000
Total merchandise ... £	3,713,000	2,988,000
Articles imported for the Colonial Government	330,000	92,000
Specie	3,000	7,000
Grand total, imports ... £	4,046,000	3,087,000

NOTE.—The official figures of imports into Cape Colony are exclusive of imports by the Imperial Government, but it may be noted that supplies for the Army are still partly contracted for on the spot.

* Exclusive of imports of diamonds and gold from States outside the Colony:—2,400,000*l.* during the first two months of 1904, and 3,062,000*l.* during the same period of 1905.

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Trade of Cape Colony (continued).

Exports from Cape Colony.

Principal and other Articles.	Two Months ended 28th February.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Gold (raw)	2,321,000	2,955,000
Diamonds	776,000	776,000
Wool (washed, scoured, and in the grease) ...	328,000	260,000
Ostrich feathers	140,000	158,000
Copper ore	78,000	117,000
Hides and skins	70,000	77,000
Hair, Angora	37,000	20,000
All other articles of merchandise	29,000	349,000
Total merchandise ... £	3,779,000	4,707,000
Imported goods, re-exported	63,000	67,000
Specie	419,000	1,000
Grand total, exports ... £	4,261,000	4,775,000

TRADE OF NATAL.

A communication has been received from the Correspondent at Durban of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade (Mr. A. D. C. Agnew) giving the Customs returns of imports and exports during the three months ended 31st March, 1904 and 1905, as follows:—

	Imports.		Exports.	
	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£
January	1,111,779	797,684	826,373	801,737
February	891,859	822,161	829,815	823,512
March	1,034,020	1,009,122	631,458	693,644
Total for first quarter...	3,037,658	2,628,967	2,287,646	2,318,893

Mr. Agnew remarks that the steady growth of imports since January would appear to indicate the beginning of a period of greater activity in business.

The decrease of exports in March is largely due to reduced exports of wines and spirits to the Transvaal. The Garrison Institutes and other large importers of liquors send out half-yearly orders, which are executed during January and February. It is noteworthy that the March exports are considerably larger than those during the corresponding month last year.

Mr. Agnew encloses a list of prices current at Durban, which may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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IMPORT TRADE OF THE TRANSVAAL.

With reference to the statement on pp. 499-500 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 16th March, the following tables, showing the value of the principal and other articles imported into the Transvaal during the month of January, 1905, as compared with January, 1904, have been compiled from official figures published in the "Transvaal Government Gazette" of 24th March :—

Imports (*exclusive of specie*).

Articles of Merchandise.	Month of January.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Provisions, exclusive of corn and dairy products (*includes coffee, chicory, biscuits, meats, fresh and preserved, fish, fresh and preserved, jams, sugar, tea, vegetables, fruits, condiments, salt, &c.*) ...	192,000	260,000
Metals and manufactures of (*includes agricultural implements, hardware, iron and steel manufactures, machinery, wire rope, &c.*)	231,000	196,000
Apparel, haberdashery, &c. (*includes hats*)	134,000	118,000
Corn and grain (*includes flour, meal and rice*) ...	84,000	115,000
Wood and manufactures (*includes furniture*)	89,000	74,000
Leather and manufactures (*includes saddlery and boots and shoes*)	42,000	50,000
Dairy products (*includes butter and butterine, eggs, cheese, preserved milk, &c.*)	50,000	49,000
Drugs and chemicals	36,000	42,000
Live animals	26,000	41,000
Beverages (*includes ale, spirits, wine and mineral waters*)	38,000	32,000
Groceries and oilmen's stores (*includes oils, paints, turpentine and varnish*)	25,000	26,000
Arms and ammunition (*includes dynamite and other explosives*)	21,000	26,000
Stationery and paper (*includes wall paper and books*)	22,000	25,000
Vehicles (*includes cycles and accessories*)	32,000	24,000
Soap and candles	17,000	22,000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	19,000	21,000
Electric cable wire and fittings	9,000	20,000
Cotton manufactures	16,000	19,000
Tobacco, raw and manufactured (*includes cigars and cigarettes*)	16,000	19,000
Glass and glassware	9,000	8,000
Tramway material...	8,000	8,000
Woollen manufactures	8,000	8,000
Instruments, musical and other	7,000	6,000
Cocoa, chocolate, and confectionery	5,000	5,000
Seeds, trees and plants	7,000	4,000
Cement and lime	3,000	4,000
Toys and sporting goods	3,000	4,000
Earthenware and crockery	4,000	3,000
Bags (not leather or canvas)	3,000	3,000
Fuse	3,000	3,000
Coal, coke and patent fuel	2,000	2,000
Photographic material	2,000	2,000
Tobacconist ware	2,000	2,000
Carpets	2,000	1,000
Linen manufactures	1,000	1,000
Other articles of merchandise	12,000	15,000
Total... ... ... £	1,180,000	1,198,000

Of the total value of merchandise imported into the Transvaal during January, 1905, 429,000*l.* worth were sent *viâ* Cape Colony, 550,000*l.* worth *viâ* Natal, and 201,000*l.* worth *viâ* Delagoa Bay.

NOTE.—The above figures do not include free importations for Local Government or Military Stores, or Railway Material imported as "Government Stores."

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

DOMINION OF CANADA.

Regulations relating to Commercial Travellers' Samples.

The Board of Trade have received from the High Commissioner for Canada a copy of a Customs memorandum (No. 1,311 B), issued by the Canadian Customs Department, on 1st February, 1905, and which consolidates the regulations previously in force respecting commercial samples and travellers' baggage imported into the Dominion.

The following is the text of the memorandum in question:—

1. (*a*) Samples such as are carried by commercial travellers, together with the trunks and other packages containing them (except when of "no commercial value") are subject to the ordinary Customs duty, but not to *special* duty in addition thereto. Customs officers may allow rebate of duty, under the preferential tariff, on samples of British origin arriving from any British country, upon declaration of the traveller.

(*b*) Commercial travellers are required to deliver to the Customs officer, for entry purposes, an invoice or statement in detail, showing the price (wholesale) of each sample as sold for home consumption; such invoice or statement shall be attested by the traveller, and the quantities of such samples shall be duly checked by the Customs officer and proper duty paid thereon before delivery.

(*c*) Imported samples (not Canadian produce or manufacture) are subject to duty at each time of importation: Provided, however, that the trunks in which samples are contained may be admitted free after payment of duty on first importation, if identified to the satisfaction of the Customs officer.

(*d*) Cards, portfolios, pasteboard boxes, or other coverings containing cut samples of cloth, edgings, textile fabrics, buttons of various patterns, and other articles obviously for use only as samples to sell by and having no commercial value, may be admitted free of duty; the term "no commercial value" does not, however, apply to portfolios, boxes, or other coverings used in displaying samples, when susceptible to other use or having a saleable value.

2. Merchandise for sale, when brought into Canada as baggage, is subject to duty and to entry at the Custom-house, in the same manner as goods imported by freight or express.

3. Wearing apparel, articles of personal adornment, toilet articles, and similar personal effects of persons arriving in Canada may be passed free without entry at Customs, as travellers' baggage, under the provisions of the Customs tariff, but this provision shall only include such articles as actually accompany and are in the use of, and as are necessary and appropriate for the wear and use of such persons for the immediate purpose of the journey and present comfort and convenience, and shall not be held to apply to merchandise or articles intended for other persons or for sale.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

DOMINION OF CANADA—*continued.*

Regulations affecting importation of Tourists' Automobiles.

A copy of a further Customs Memorandum (No. 1,313 B) has been received, which was issued to Customs Collectors by the Canadian Customs Department on 17th March last, and which consolidates the regulations respecting the importation by tourists of their automobiles into the Dominion.

The present memorandum provides for the substitution of regulations in lieu of those issued on 15th May, 1903, and 20th July, 1903 (Customs Memorandums Nos. 1,228 B and 1,235 B). A copy of the Memorandum may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Free Importation of Metal Hat-fasteners.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the "Commonwealth Gazette" for 11th February last containing a Customs Bye-Law, dated 3rd February, 1905, notifying that "metal hat-fasteners," for use in the manufacture of hats, may be imported into the Commonwealth free of duty.

Drawbacks.

The same issue of the "Gazette" contains a Customs notice issued on 9th February, 1905, under the Customs Regulation No. 131, providing for a drawback of duty on "rim bars" used in the manufacture of cycle rims, upon exportation of such manufactured articles from the Commonwealth.

Prohibition of the importation of "Apperine."

A copy of the "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" for 4th March last contains a Proclamation issued by the Governor-General of Australia on 17th February, notifying the prohibition of the importation of "Apperine" (being a substitute for hops) into the Commonwealth.

Customs Decision respecting "Palm butter."

The same issue of the "Gazette" contains a further Customs Notice, dated 1st March, 1905, directing that "Palm butter," which is a substance capable of being used as a substitute for cocoa butter, shall be chargeable with duty as cocoa butter (viz., 1*d.* per lb.), on importation into the Australian Commonwealth.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAMAICA.

Regulations affecting Manufacture and Export of Tobacco.

A copy of the "Jamaica Gazette" for 23rd February last has been received containing rules, which have been approved by the Governor-in-Council, under the provisions of the Jamaica Tobacco Excise Duty Laws (Nos. 28 of 1900, and 10 of 1902).

These rules, which relate to tobacco, cigars and cigarettes manufactured in, or exported from, the Colony of Jamaica, may be seen by persons interested on application to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Surtax on all Goods Imported.

With reference to the notice which appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal" on April 6th last, respecting the imposition of a surtax of 6 per cent. on the duties payable on articles imported into Jamaica, the Board of Trade have now received, from the Government of Jamaica, a copy of the Law (No. 3 of 1905) dated 16th March, 1905, which provides for the imposition of the above "surtax," which will remain in force until the 31st March, 1906, unless previously repealed.

Revised Import Duties on Crude Petroleum and Matches.

A copy of a Law (No 2 of 1905) has also been received, which amends the Tariff Law (No. 20 of 1899) in respect of the duties imposed on crude petroleum, and on matches imported into the Colony, as follows:—

Articles.	Import Duties.	
	Old Rates.	New Rates.
	s. d.	s. d.
Crude petroleum, when admitted with the sanction of the Governor in Privy Council ... per gall. [Crude petroleum is held to mean "natural petroleum which has not been steamed nor refined in any way."]	0 7½*	0 1
Matches, lucifers, and others—		
Per gross of 12 dozen boxes, each box to contain 100 sticks, and boxes containing any greater or lesser quantity to be charged in proportion ...	3 0	—
Per gross of 12 dozen boxes, each box to contain 50 sticks or less, and boxes containing any greater quantity to be charged in proportion ...	—	1 9

* Under the original Law of 1899 *all* petroleum was subject to a duty of 7½*d.* per gallon.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAMAICA—*continued.*

Revised Excise Duty on Matches.

A copy of a further Law (No. 1 of 1905) has been received, which provides for the increase of the "Excise" duty imposed by Law 12 of 1901, on matches manufactured in the Colony, from 3*d.* to 6*d.* for every gross of boxes of matches containing 50 sticks or less per box—boxes containing a greater number of sticks to be charged in proportion.

BAROTZILAND—NORTH-WESTERN RHODESIA.

Prohibition of the Collection of Rubber for Sale or Export.

The "Official Gazette of the High Commissioner of South Africa" for 24th March, contains a Proclamation (No. 8 of 1905), issued on 22nd March, for the purpose of providing better protection for the rubber plant within the territory defined by the Barotziland, North-Western Rhodesia, Order-in-Council of 1899.

The present Proclamation provides, *inter alia*, that from and after 1st July, 1905, no person shall (except in certain specified cases) cut any rubber plant, tree or vine, collect rubber latex, or sell or export any rubber from the territory. From the above proviso are excepted—

(*a*) Rubber collected outside the territory, which is in course of transit through the same to a place beyond the limits thereof.

(*b*) Rubber extracted from *cultivated* plants, trees or vines growing within the territory, and

(*c*) Any plants, trees or vines *cultivated* within the territory.

ST. HELENA.

Prohibition of the Importation of Fruit from certain Places.

A copy of an Ordinance (No. 7 of 1904) has been received, which was enacted by the Governor of St. Helena on 10th October last, with the view of exterminating the "peach fly" in the Colony.

It is provided, *inter alia*, under section 1 of the Ordinance, that any person importing fruit from—

South Africa,
Mauritius,
Cape Verde Islands, and
Malta,

or indirectly from any of the above places, into the Colony, will be liable to a penalty not exceeding 10*s.*, or in default of payment to imprisonment not exceeding seven days.

The present Ordinance also empowers the Governor to appoint Inspectors with power to prohibit the importation of green fruit from any of the above places.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

FRANCE.

Imports of Coffee and Cocoa from the Congo District.

The French "Journal Officiel" for the 30th March contains the text of a Presidential Decree fixing the quantities of coffee and cocoa in the bean, the produce of the French portion of the conventional basin of the Congo, which may be admitted into France under special conditions during the year 1905, as follows:—

Coffee	50,000 kilogs.
Cocoa	25,000 „

ITALY.

"Temporary Admission" of Steel in Bars.

The Italian "Gazetta Ufficiale" for 20th March contains the text of a Royal Decree extending "temporary admission" facilities to steel in bars intended for the manufacture of files and rasps.

The special conditions governing this concession and the general Regulations under which "temporary admission" is accorded may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Customs Decisions.

The following is the substance of some decisions affecting the application of the United States Customs Tariff, which have recently been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington:—

Beer—Allowance for leakage in transit.—The second proviso to paragraph 296 of the Tariff prohibiting allowance for breakage, leakage, or damage on "wines, liquors, cordials, or distilled spirits," does not refer to beer, on which duty is to be levied only on the quantity actually arriving in the United States.

Also the following:—

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
		Dols. Cts.
"*Gadnol*," an alcoholic extract of cod liver oil ...	3	25 % *ad val.*
Braids composed of silk, imported in lengths of 100 yards or more, and which appear to be chiefly used for making corset laces by being cut into suitable lengths and tagged for that purpose ...	390	60 % „
Waste cotton yarn, which has been put through a machine so as to press the waste into the form of sheets similar to cotton batting, the sheets being then wrapped round a roller for the sake of easy transportation...	537	Free.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
		Dols. Cts.
Sovereign purses, composed of metal made in imitation of gun metal	193	45 % *ad val.*
Watch guards composed of sections of nickel-plated steel and of leather, the metal parts consisting of a bar, a swivel, and short lengths of chain which alternate with strips of leather, some tooled and others stitched, attached to the chain parts by ornamental caps	450	35 % "
Manila binding twine; composed wholly or in part of manila ... ... [This revokes two Decisions of 1899 authorising the free entry of this article under paragraph 491, when imported from Canada or from Mexico].	347	45 % "
* *Watchmen's time detectors;* dutiable as watch movements in cases	191	Various rates.
Cotton labels composed of a basic fabric of cotton, upon which is superimposed embroidered cotton and silk designs and letters	320 and 339	60 % *ad val.*
White dextrin	286	Lb. 0 02
**Ping-pong balls* of celluloid; dutiable as manufactures of collodion or pyroxylin... ...	17	" 0 65 and 25 % *ad val.*

* Revised decision.

COLOMBIA.

New Customs Tariff.—*Continued from p.* 120 *of the "Board of Trade Journal," of* 20*th April.*

	Per kilog. Dols. Gold.
Hemp and Flax.	
Sacks or bags, empty, of coarse cloth, tarred or not, with or without waterproof paper, and coarse tissue for the manufacture of such bags.	0 02
Cloth, unbleached (*coleta*)	0 05
Common unbleached tissues, such as Osnaburgs, sail and tent canvas, domestics, and awning cloth, with the exception of drills	0 15
Osnaburgs, white or striped, common	0 20
Fine unbleached tissues, with the exception of drills and other tissues mentioned in the following categories	0 40
Drills, unbleached, white or coloured, *creas*, silesians, huckaback; stuffs for tablecloths, napkins and towels; bed-covers, stuffs for mattresses, ribbons, sheeting, and other similar materials not mentioned in any other number of the tariff, provided that they be without needlework or embroidery	0 60
Handkerchiefs, caps, stockings, gloves, Brittany cloth, white jeans, lawns, Picardies, Irish linen, "*lavales*," warandoffs, batistes, striped stuffs in imitation of cotton; fringes, galloons, sashes, braids, ribbons, cords, tassels, and other similar articles; ready-made clothing without embroidery, lace or other trimmings composed of materials subject to higher duty	0 80
Tissues of all kinds, embroidered or with net work, and imitations thereof, including lace, insertions, &c., and ready-made clothing not otherwise mentioned	0 90

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COLOMBIA—*continued.*

	Per kilog. Dols.	Gold.
Thread	0	20
Cordage, tarred and cable	0	03
Cordage not otherwise mentioned	0	10
Varnished stuffs for roofing cottages and bridges	0	03
Common cloth prepared or varnished for floors; common oilcloth for carriages, not including that used for table-covers	0	10
Wool.		
Wool, unmanufactured	0	03
Blankets	0	30
Yarns	0	40
Carpets and rugs...	0	50
Baize, frieze and flannels	0	70
Loose-woven or transparent tissues, tissues of all kinds, embroidered or with net work, and imitations thereof, including lace, insertions, &c., and ready-made clothing	0	90
All other tissues and articles not specially mentioned	0	80
Silk.		
Silk thread, tissues, &c....	0	90
Various tissues and threads.		
Brocades and other tissues embroidered with gold, silver, or other metals, also threads, &c., of the same materials	1	50
Tissues of horsehair or other materials not specially mentioned	0	40
Oilcloth for furniture and table-covers, not specially mentioned... ...	0	40
Small samples, not exceeding 25 kilogs. in weight	Free.	
Tissues made of several materials shall be subject to the duty leviable on the component material most highly taxed.		
Caoutchouc.		
Caoutchouc, unmanufactured	0	20
Boots and shoes of all kinds, life-preservers, tissues for making leggings and waterproof cloaks without wool or silk	0	60
Pipes and hose for pumps, drains and roofs; caoutchouc prepared for machines and flooring, excepting hose for fire-engines, which pays 1 centavo per kilog.	0	03
Lids and stoppers for recipients	0	05
Elastics for shoes	0	40
Buttons not covered	0	20
Caoutchouc manufactured into all other articles	0	80
Hides, skins, and leather.		
Hides, skins, and leather, unmanufactured, except patent leather ...	0	10
Patent leather, unmanufactured	0	15
Boots and shoes	0	80
Gloves, caps, furs for trimming clothing, &c., pocket-books, cigar-cases, pouches, and other similar articles	0	90
Hides, skins, and leather, manufactured into articles not specially mentioned	0	80
Harness for carts and carriages	0	05
Earthenware.		
Articles of all kinds of common earthenware and stoneware	0	05
Articles of all kinds of porcelain and of Talavera	0	10
Pots, jars, bottles, large or small flasks, empty, of earthenware, destined to be used as recipients, and common crockery in general	0	02
Conduits, pipes and tubes, for pumps, drains, and roofs	0	03
Crystal and glass.		
Demijohns and common bottles of black glass or of common white glass	0	01
Flasks, large and small, of common glass	0	02
Window glass, not coated with quicksilver	0	03

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COLOMBIA—*continued.*

	Per kilog. Dols.	Gold.
Mirrors, not exceeding 25 centimetres	0	10
" exceeding 25 centimetres	0	20
Beads, pearls, counters, bugles, imitation precious stones or jewels, glasses for watches and spectacles and other similar articles	0	40
All other articles of glass	0	10
Articles for lighting, &c.		
Wax, white, yellow, and laurel coloured, not manufactured	0	15
" " " manufactured into candles or other articles	0	20
Spermaceti, not manufactured...	0	10
" manufactured into candles, &c.	0	15
Stearine and paraffine, not manufactured	0	03
" " manufactured into candles, &c.	0	10
Tallow, not manufactured	0	01
Tallow candles or other candles not specially mentioned	0	10
Stearic acid	0	01
Petroleum...	0	05
Matches of wood...	0	10
" of wax	0	40
Drugs and medicines.		
Drugs and medicines of all kinds, with the exception of those enumerated below	0	15
Alum ; sulphur	0	20
Saltpetre ; sulphuric acid	0	05
Caustic soda or potash, soda ash and soda salts, pine-resin, sub-carbonates of potash and of soda	0	02½

NOTE.—The term "medicines" comprises articles used in case of sickness, such as trusses, suspenders, &c., but not the recipients and utensils of earthenware, &c., used by druggists, nor surgical instruments, &c., and other similar articles which are dutiable according to their respective numbers of the tariff.

SANTO DOMINGO.

New Consumption Taxes.

A Dominican Law, published in the "Gaceta Oficial" for the 17th December last imposes a consumption tax on certain articles manufactured in or imported into Santo Domingo, which tax is to be paid by means of special stamps at the time the articles are cleared through the Custom House. The Tariff of consumption duties leviable on *imported* articles is as follows:—

Articles.	Unit.	Value of Stamp.
		Pesos.
Fans	each	0 02
Accordeons	"	0 10
Albums of all kinds	"	0 25
Walking sticks of whalebone	"	0 10
" " common	"	0 05
Trunks	"	0 10
Bicycles	"	0 50
Caps of all kinds...	"	0 05
Boots and shoes of all kinds for men and women	pair	0 05

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

SANTO DOMINGO—*continued.*

Articles.	Unit.	Value of Stamp.
		Pesos.
Boots and shoes (children's)	pair	0 01
Beds	each	0 50
Rain cloaks	"	0 20
Masks of all kinds	"	0 10
Brushes, hair or clothes...	"	0 02
" horse	"	0 01
" shoe	"	0 00½
" tooth	"	0 00½
Cigarettes	Packet of 14 to 16 cigarettes	0 02
"	Packet of more than 16 cigarettes	0 05
Belts, girdles of all kinds	each	0 02
Music albums	"	0 10
Alimentary preserves in tins	½ lb. tin or less	0 02
" " "	1 lb. tin or less	0 04
Neckties and cravats of all kinds	each	0 01
Corsets of all kinds	"	0 10
Chromos with frame	"	0 10
" without frame	"	0 01
Knives, pointed, of all kinds	"	0 05
Cradles	"	0 10
Pickles	bottle, jar, or tin	0 02
Shotguns of all kinds	each	0 50
Mirrors, framed, more than 30 in. long ...	"	0 50
" " 15 in. to 30 in. long... ...	"	0 10
" " 5 in. to 15 in. long	"	0 05
Matches	box or packet of 50 or less	0 00½
Flower stands of porcelain or imitations thereof	each	0 02
Saddle cloths of fine quality	"	0 50
" " common quality	"	0 20
Guitars	"	0 50
Common soaps	100 lbs.	0 50
Toilet soaps of all kinds	cake	0 02
Cages of all sizes...	each	0 25
Lamps, hanging, or chandeliers of four or more lights, of crystal, bronze or nickelled..	"	1 00
Lamps, hanging, fine, of less than four lights, and pedestal lamps of all sizes	"	0 50
Lamps with crystal globes or shades up to 6 in.	"	0 20
Lamps, bracket, with reflectors	"	0 10
" common glass, and lanterns	"	0 05
Washstands of all kinds	each	0 25
Blank books	"	double the stamp duty on printed books
" larger than folio	"	0 10
Printed books, 18mo, bound	"	0 01
" 16mo, "	"	0 02
" 12mo, "	"	0 03
" 8vo, "	"	0 04
" 8vo, large, bound	"	0 05

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

SANTO DOMINGO—*continued.*

Articles.	Unit.	Value of Stamp.
		Pesos.
Printed books, 4to, bound	each	0 06
„ 4to, large, bound	„	0 07
„ folio, bound	„	0 08
„ „ large, bound	„	0 09
„ „ grand	„	0 10
Unbound books	„	50 % of the duty on bound books
Labels for cigarettes	thousand	1 00
Patent medicines...	bottle	0 06
„	box or package	0 02
Memorandums	thousand	1 00
Coffee mills and other grinders of all kinds ...	each	0 05
Mortars	„	0 00½
Playing cards	pack	0 05
Toilet cases of all kinds...	each	0 10
Printing paper	ream	0 40
Perfume sprayers	each	0 02
Perfume and toilet powder	box of all kinds or sizes	0 02
Cut tobacco	arroba (25 lbs.)	3 00
Toilet powder boxes, of porcelain or glass ...	each	0 02
„ „ „ of tin	„	0 01
Pomades, essences, and toilet waters	bottle or pot	0 02
Watches and clocks—		
Table clocks...	each	0 25
Watches of nickel or nickelled iron ...	„	0 25
„ silver	„	0 50
„ gold	„	1 00
Scales of all kinds	„	1 00
Saddles of all kinds	„	1 00
Hats, felt or beaver	„	0 10
„ Panama (real or imitation)	„	0 40
„ straw, palm, or other material, for men or women	„	0 05
Cigars	hundred	0 40
Candles, sperm	package of six or more, 12 inches long	0 02
„ „	package of six or less, 8 inches long	0 01½
„ „	package of six or less, shorter	0 01
„ tallow	pound	0 02½
Velocipedes of all sizes	each	0 10

NOTE.—Article 14 of the Law provides that goods paying this consumption tax shall not be subject to the surtax fixed by the municipal tariffs.

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

CAPE COLONY.

Harbour Regulations Amendments at Port Elizabeth.

Referring to the notice on p. 30 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 6th October, 1904, the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" publishes an official notice approving certain amendments to the Regulations and Tariff of the Port Elizabeth Harbour Board.

The scale of tonnage for sugar in pockets is altered from 1,500 lbs. per ton to 2,000 lbs. per ton. "Deal" is defined as unplaned timber ranging from 3 in. by 3 in. to 4 in. by 12 in., and 9*d.* per ton is charged for sorting same.

Other sorting or measuring charges are given as follows:—

		s.	d.
Galvanised iron	per ton	0	6
Ceiling, flooring, or shelving boards, loose ...	„	2	6
„ „ „ in bundles	„	1	6
Logs	„	1	6
Bar iron and fencing standards	„	1	6
All other cargo	„	1	0
Minimum charge	„	2	6

RUSSIA.

Opening of St. Petersburg-Vologda Railway for Temporary Traffic.

According to the official "Commercial and Industrial Gazette," an extract from which has been forwarded by the British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke), the St. Petersburg-Vologda Railway was to be opened for temporary traffic on and from the 1/14th April. Regular traffic will start in September. As regards the St. Petersburg station of this railway, the Minister of Ways has not yet decided where it shall be constructed; for the present, trains depart from the Nikolai station.

Mr. Cooke remarks that this railway, which is a portion of that now being constructed to connect the capital direct with Siberia, will cut the existing Moscow-Yaroslav-Archangel Railway at Vologda, and thus considerably shorten the journey from St. Petersburg to the northern port, and *vice versâ*.

BELGIUM—INDIA.

New S.S. Services between Antwerp and India.

Despatches have been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Mr. E. C. Hertslet) reporting (1) that the steamers of the British India Steam Navigation Company will now call at Antwerp on their voyages from London to Bombay and Kurrachee.

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Shipping and Transport.

(2) That the Peninsular and Oriental Steam Navigation Company have inaugurated a fortnightly service, commencing on the 11th April, carrying goods without transhipment from Antwerp direct, *viâ* London, to Colombo and Calcutta, and *vice versâ*.

FRANCE.

Improvement of the River Loire.

The Acting British Consul at Nantes (Mr. A. Trillot) reports that the increase of tonnage at that port is mostly due to the improvement of the River Loire in spite of the heavier taxes and port dues imposed to provide for the cost.

The ships have had to pay during part of the year 1904 on their gross tonnage, and also the canal dues, even when their draught of water permitted them to pass through the river. The attempt made to render the Upper Loire navigable has been successful for a distance of 1,500 metres (about a mile) near Chalonnes, and when it has been found that the work done can stand the floods and strong currents of the river, a further experiment will be made on a distance of about 10 miles. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,336.)

SPAIN.

Additional Port opened to Trade.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Ambassador at Madrid (Sir A. Nicolson) forwarding translation of a Royal Decree which authorises the exportation of pressed esparto grass from the place known as "El Charco," on the beach of the port of Poniente (district of Agulhas.)

Visa of Manifests for Spanish Ports.

Owing to a recent case of the imposition of a fine on a British steamer for arriving at a Spanish port, from a port where there was no Spanish Consul, without a certified manifest, the following extract from the official regulations on this subject may be of interest. Attention is called to the words which are printed in italics :—

Article 45 of the Customs regulations as promulgated by Royal Decree of the 19th November, 1884. (Translation.)

"Captains of vessels laden with goods of foreign origin, such cargo being for immediate consumption, for warehousing, for transhipment or in transit, must, on arrival in Spanish territorial waters, possess a manifest duly drawn up and signed, containing the whole cargo and lading (pacotillas y encargos), which document must be visa'ed by the Spanish Consul at the port of sailing, *if there is one; if not—then by the local authority, the Customs Administration, or the Consul of a friendly Power.*"

(Summary of remainder of Article.)

Are exempted from the visa—the manifests of vessels in ballast or in which the whole cargo consists of goods on which the amount of all dues does not exceed 50 pesetas per 1,000 kilos.

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Shipping and Transport.

Steamboats only calling at Spanish ports to embark passengers and cargo may substitute for the manifest an invoice of the cargo accompanied by its bills of lading, duly numbered, both duly visa'ed.

Chapter II. (Translation).

Article 246. "The captain of a vessel from abroad becomes liable to a fine under the circumstances, and to the amount below mentioned:

1. For not presenting a manifest or invoice duly visa'ed as required by Article 45 on the entry of the vessel into Spanish waters—a fine of 500 pesetas.

(*Summary.*)

Vessels laden with tobacco, petroleum, textiles or groceries pay, in addition, a fine of 5 to 100 pesetas per bale. Vessels entering from stress of weather are exempt if bound for foreign ports.

ITALY.

River Navigation between Venice and Milan.

H.M. Consul at Venice (Mr. E. de Zuccato) reports that a commission recently appointed by the Italian Government to study a plan of river navigation along the Po and its confluents between Venice and Milan, have arrived at the following conclusions, viz.:—

1. To establish a direct service for 397 kiloms., with 600-ton flat boats from Venice to Milan, through Brondola, Cavanella, Adda, Pizzighettone and Lodi.

2. To group and connect all the branch lines to the principal one and to the lakes in a uniform manner, so as to cover a distance of 3,410 kiloms. There would be 705 kiloms. navigable for 600-ton boats, 1,168 kiloms. for 250-ton boats, 1,274 kiloms. for 100-ton boats, and 261 kiloms. for smaller boats.

The expenditure to be incurred in excavating and improving the services has been computed to be about 118,000,000 frs. (4,720,000*l.*).

The commission have calculated that an energy of 48,500 horse-power might be produced along the rivers, to be utilised by industrial establishments, which, at 30 fr. per unit, would yield an annual income of 1,455,000 fr. (58,200*l.*), representing a capital of 36,000,000 fr. (1,440,000*l.*).

There would be the distribution of water for irrigation on 9,000 hectares of ground, which, at 20 fr. per hectare a year, would amount annually to a sum of 180,000 fr. (7,200*l.*), corresponding to a capital of 4,500,000 fr. (180,000*l.*). Therefore, in the opinion of the commission, the actual expenditure would be reduced to 77,000,000 fr. (3,080,000*l.*)—22,632 fr. (905*l.*) per kilom. There would also be the dues to be levied for passage, anchoring, &c., the freight for conveyance of goods; and the commission state that as the traffic developed the capital might be sunk and paid off in a short time. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,340).

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Shipping and Transport.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—CANADA.

New Railway Construction in 1904.

According to the "Railway Age" (Chicago), the length of new railways (steam) constructed in the **United States** in 1904 amounted to 4,252 miles as compared with 5,786 and 5,684 miles respectively, in 1903 and 1902. For the current year, says the "Age," there is promise of great activity in railway construction.

The same Journal states that complete returns from **Canada** show that 828 miles of new line were completed in the Dominion during 1904.

HONDURAS.

Communication to the Pacific Coast.

See p. 152 for an extract from a report by H.M. Consul at Tegucigalpa referring to communication by automobiles between that town and the Pacific Coast.

MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Enquiry under the Boiler Explosions Act.

A formal investigation was held in Dublin on the 6th, 7th and 10th April into the circumstances attending the explosion of a copper boiling pan, which occurred at Loftus Lane Jam Factory, Dublin, on the 16th February. The Commissioners found the owners slightly to blame for the explosion, and ordered them to pay the sum of 10*l.* towards the costs of the investigation.

NATAL.

Projected Iron Industry.

The "Natal Mercury" has announced that preliminary steps are being taken to commence the manufacture of iron in Natal for local consumption. A syndicate have applied for, and are reported to have obtained, a grant of land at Newcastle for the purpose. This town has been selected owing to its proximity to the coal mines. The nature of the company's operations will have no connection, at the present stage, with iron mining, the capital required for such an equipment being considered prohibitive during the present depression, but the intention is to purchase the iron "scrap," which is furnished in such large quantities in South Africa by the rejection

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of worn out iron material by the railways and public works departments of the various Colonies and municipalities, together with numerous other sources, and to convert it into new and saleable material, which shall be in price and quality capable of competing with the imported article. The principal aim in view is to supply the railways' demands for manufactured iron and steel, and with this object it is proposed to lay in a full equipment of plant capable of producing steel rails, bolts, rivets, plates, bar-iron, and all the diversified constructional iron work which a railway and general contractor needs.

The "Mercury" remarks that with the large and growing production of Natal coal, there should be connected in years to come an iron industry.

STRAITS SETTLEMENTS.

Cold Storage.

The "Straits Times" reports the inauguration of a cold storage system at Singapore. The insulated building at Borneo wharf has at present storage capacity for 400 tons and provision has been made in the construction of the depôt for an extension to allow of a further 200 tons if required, the machinery installation being adequate.

GERMANY.

Growing Importance of Machinery Trade.

In his report for 1904, H.M. Consul-General at Berlin (Mr. Schwabach) writes:—

"Attention was directed in previous reports to the increasing importance of the export of German machinery and highly-finished iron goods, which latter must not be confounded with the forced or 'emergency' sales of pig-iron and partly manufactured or heavy iron goods. The growing export of machinery testifies to the unremitting and successful efforts of the German manufacturer to turn out good work at moderate prices."

FRANCE.

German and other Coal *v.* British at Nantes.

In his report for the year 1904, the Acting British Consul at Nantes (Mr. A. Trillot) points out that German coal has successfully competed with British coal at that port, owing, it is said, to its being generally much cleaner, and to the fact that more trouble is taken to suit the exact requirements of the buyer.

The reduced railway tariffs have allowed coal from the north of France and Belgium to come as far as Angers, where it has advantageously competed with British coal imported by the Loire ports. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,336.)

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

FRANCE—NEW CALEDONIA.

Exports of Ores and Coffee.

The "Politique Coloniale," in publishing the following figures of the exports of ores and coffee from New Caledonia in the years 1903 and 1904, remarks on the increasing importance of the mining industry, and the decline in the agricultural industry, of which coffee is the principal product:—

Exports.

—	1903.	1904.
	Kilogs.	Kilogs.
Nickel ore...	77,360,093	98,655,104
Cobalt ore...	8,292,088	8,964,183
Chrome ore	21,437,372	42,197,477
Copper ore	9,845	—
Lead ore	5,950	—
Coffee in beans	626,478	346,619

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Production of Rails in 1904.

According to the "Bulletin" of the American Iron and Steel Association, the production of all kinds of rails in the United States in 1904 as ascertained by the Association amounted to 2,284,711 tons, against 2,992,477 tons in 1903, a decrease of 707,766 tons, or 23·6 per cent. In the following table the production of all kinds of rails in 1904 is given:—

—	Bessemer.	Open-hearth.	Iron.	Total.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Pennsylvania	801,657	20,451	—	822,108
Other States	1,336,300	125,432	871	1,462,603
Total	2,137,957	145,883	871	2,284,711

MEXICO.

Regulations as to Payment of Assay Tax.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico of 30th March contains the text of certain regulations as to the payment of the assay tax on precious metals, and substances containing them, and as to the exportation, and the importation for re-exportation, of such metals and substances.

The "Diario" may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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YARNS AND TEXTILES.

INDIA.

Cotton Spinning and Weaving Returns for December.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of a monthly return issued by the Indian Government, showing the quantity of cotton yarn spun, and of cotton woven goods produced, in each province of British India, and in the Native States, during December of each of the years 1902, 1903 and 1904, and in the nine months ended December, 1902, 1903 and 1904.

The following is a summarised statement extracted from the above return, giving particulars for the nine months ended December, 1902, 1903 and 1904 :—

		Nine Months ended December.		
		1902.	1903.	1904.
BRITISH INDIA, BERAR, AND NATIVE STATES.				
Cotton yarn spun	Lbs.	431,512,052	452,584,926	421,641,933
Cotton woven goods produced :—				
Grey goods	"	76,233,625	86,354,162	100,267,387
	= Yards	310,620,709	352,926,371	420,138,339
Figured and coloured goods	Lbs.	15,880,567	18,611,869	20,115,329
Hosiery	"	481,924	684,939	636,050
Miscellaneous goods ...	"	1,085,269	1,193,652	1,836,044

FRENCH INDO-CHINA.

Cotton Piece-goods Trade.

The following table, showing the imports of cotton piece-goods into Indo-China during each of the last three years, is compiled from a return published in the "Journal Officiel de l'Indo-Chine Française" of 20th February :—

From	Unbleached Cotton Goods.			Bleached Cotton Goods.		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.	Kilogs.
France	974,536	229,889	792,901	1,284,508	1,111,980	1,741,793
French Colonies ...	38,912	41,520	68,005	—	27,833	25,608
Other countries ...	6,848	16,608	13,233	137,009	17,374	48,236
Total ...	1,020,296	288,017	874,139	1,421,517	1,157,187	1,815,637

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 22nd April, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.* 8*d.*
Barley	24*s.* 4*d.*
Oats	17*s.* 5*d.*

For further particulars see p. 181.

CAPE COLONY.

Bill for the Advancement of Agriculture.

Referring to the notification published in the "Board of Trade Journal," of 5th January last, of the appointment by the Cape Government of a Commission to enquire into and report upon the advisability of re-organising the existing Agricultural Department, it may be noted that the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 28th March contains the text of a Government Bill which provides for the establishment of a Board of Agriculture, a Board of Agricultural Education and a Colonial Industries Board, as well as District Agricultural Associations and District Agricultural Committees.

NATAL.

Tea Industry.

The annual report for 1904 of the Durban Chamber of Commerce gives the following particulars respecting the tea industry of Natal in that year:—

The past season has been one of partial drought, which has considerably affected the out-turn of tea, and it is doubtful whether the total crop was much more than 1½ million pounds.

The demand for Natal tea is in excess of the supply, but with the large increase of area planted, and given good seasons, it is expected that steady progress will be made towards fully supplying the South African market.

A new tea factory, equipped with the latest machinery, is being erected at Kearsney, and will be in working order next season to meet the prospective increase of yield from fresh fields.

The areas newly planted during the present season may be estimated at 400 acres. This will make the total area of the colony planted with tea not less than 5,200 acres.

It is satisfactory to know that Natal teas, which are specially suited to the climate of South Africa, are well established in public favour, and steadily improving their position year by year.

Prices have been steadily maintained for several years, ranging from 1*s.* 2½*d.* per lb. for the best golden pekoe to 7½*d.* for souchong.

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Agriculture.

The quantities of tea consigned by rail were (gross weight) as follows:—

	1903. Tons.	1904. Tons.
North Coast Line	1,126 ...	1,065
South Coast Line	71 ...	80
Total	1,197 ...	1,145

FRENCH WEST AFRICA.

Cotton Cultivation in Senegal and the Niger Territory.

The "Journal Officiel," of French West Africa states that the experimental cotton plantations in Upper Senegal and the Niger Territory suffered to some extent from drought in 1904, and the quantity produced was therefore not so great as had been hoped; the quality, however, was good. The results of 1904 confirm the conclusions arrived at in the previous year, viz., that the climate and soil are eminently adapted to certain varieties of American "Upland" cotton, which gives better results than indigenous cotton cultivated in the same way on similar soil. Experiments with Egyptian and Peruvian varieties of cotton have not proved satisfactory.

ITALY.

Hemp Production.

H.M. Consul at Venice (Mr. E. de Zuccato) reports that from enquiry which he has made, it would appear—there being no statistics on the subject—that about 7,000 tons of hemp are produced in the district of Rovigo, about 11,000 tons in the district of Ferrara and about 9,000 tons in the districts of Bologna. The crop in 1904 was about one-third less than the normal crop. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,340.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 20th April, 1905, was 96,230 (including 258 bales British West Indian), and the number imported during the 16 weeks ended the 20th April was 1,394,195 (including 727 bales British West African and 1,326 bales British West Indian). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 20th April, 1905, 4,582 bales, and for the 16 weeks, 162,764 (including 16 bales British West African).

For further details see p. 181.

BRAZIL.

German Business Methods.

With reference to the loan of 3,477,000*l.* recently negotiated by the Dresdner Bank to the State of São Paulo, for the purchase of the Sorocabana Railway from the Federal Government, the Acting British

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Miscellaneous.

BRAZIL—*continued.*

Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. C. B. Rhind) notes that among the conditions laid down by the contract is one to the effect that all material to be imported for the renewal of the metallic superstructure, rolling stock, and other improvements, as also for the extension of the line in construction, and already contracted for, shall be ordered exclusively from the firm of German merchants, who acted as intermediaries in negotiating the loan, at the prices current at the time when ordered.

It appears that only about 227,000*l.* will be available for the purposes defined, and that much of this will have to be expended in earthworks, masonry, and other construction work, so that in reality the balance disposable for imported material will be considerably reduced.

Export Trade in 1904.

The following figures, showing the quantities and values of the principal articles exported from Brazil during the year 1904, with corresponding figures for the preceding year, are extracted from the "Brazilian Review" of 28th March:—

Merchandise.		Quantity.		Value.	
		1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
				£	£
Coffee	Bags	12,927,239	10,024,536	19,076,277	19,957,569
Rubber	Kilos.	31.712,288	31,863,491	9,733,041	11,219,393
Hides and skins	"	30,636,175	35,847,320	1,820,481	2,382,256
Cocoa	"	20,899,648	23,160,028	1,012,224	1,095,535
Herva-mate	"	36,129,555	43,757,003	676,684	954,360
Tobacco	"	23,397,705	23,964,255	948,867	838,516
Cotton	"	28,235,995	13,262,788	1,323,665	826,507
Gold, bar	Gram.	4,322,043	3,871,426	468,591	418,309
Manganese	Tons	161,926	208,260	248,010	306,799
Carnauba wax	Kilos.	1,925,955	1,995,546	131,906	204,227
Monazite sands	"	3,299,460	4,860,390	74,139	108,825
Para nuts	Hect.	157,905	92,580	190,014	107,311
Sugar	Kilos.	21,888,998	7,861,450	198,540	93,488
Bran	"	17,109,977	21,151,643	75,303	89,694
Cotton seed	"	35,535,072	26,600,538	116,707	89,044
Lumber	—	—	—	76,296	73,679
Stones, precious	—	—	—	113,582	65,958
Wool	Kilos.	777,259	989,636	39,199	52,118
Fruits	—	—	—	35,852	48,254
Flour, manioc or cassava	Kilos.	6,671,239	3,980,076	40,366	45,024
Piassava	"	1,794,388	1,469,818	51,635	43,642
Horsehair	"	538,630	548,549	44,676	42,704
Extract of meat	"	389,951	278,273	30,177	23,977
Other articles...	—	—	—	356,942	326,369
Total merchandise		—	—	36,883,175	39,413,558
Specie		—	—	102,442	8,900
Grand total		—	—	36,985,617	39,422,458

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Miscellaneous.

CHINA.

Prospects of Development of Newchwang.

The following is an extract from a despatch received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Minister at Peking (Sir E. M. Satow, G.C.M.G.) on the prospects of the rapid development of Newchwang after the conclusion of the Russo-Japanese war:—

"There are now 1,400 Japanese registered at the Newchwang Consulate, which is about 300 more than there are at Tientsin. There are signs of increasing local prosperity; new shops and houses of an improved style are being built; roads have been made, and a tramway is to be constructed from the port to Niu Chia T'un (3½ miles), the terminus of the branch railway from Ta Shih Ch'iao. There is little doubt that after the war the development will be great and rapid, and Newchwang is likely to become one of the largest and busiest ports in China, and that in spite of the possible competition of other ports, such as Dalny and Ching Wan Tao. There is at present a considerable export of native produce from the latter place, the Chinese railway having contracts for the transport of beancake alone from Hsin Min T'un to the amount of 40,000 tons. It is, however, probable that this is merely product which could not be brought down in the autumn, owing to the Russian obstructions on the river, and the use of so many river boats by the Japanese."

Trans-frontier Trade with Burma *viâ* Teng Yueh.

The following table, showing the development of the trans-frontier trade with Burma since the opening of the Custom-house in Teng Yueh in May, 1902, is taken from the recent report by the Acting British Consul at that place (Mr. Litton). The figures given for 1902 are based, in respect of the first four months of that year, when the trade was still under the control of the local Chinese officials, on an estimate only:—

——	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£
Imports	138,902	193,237	251,249
Exports	26,223	31,942	48,542
Total	165,125	225,179	299,791

Mr. Litton points out, however, that the Teng Yueh customs returns do not by any means give the total value of the trans-frontier trade. There is a brisk interchange of commodities between Bhamo and the Chinese Shan States along the border,

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Miscellaneous.

most of which does not come under the notice of the Imperial Customs authorities; yarn, matches, piece-goods, salt (contraband) are exchanged against Chinese rice, opium (both contraband), iron, cattle, ponies and mules and other live animals. A considerable emigration of Chinese labour and transport from Yunnan to Burma takes place every cold season. Live animals are not noted by the Teng Yueh customs, but the total value of this trade for the year March, 1903, to March, 1904, was returned by the Burma officials as 18,000*l.* (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,335.)

JAPAN.

Encouragement of Export Trade.

The "Japan Weekly Mail" states that attention has lately been given in Yokohama to the question of devising some system which shall have the effect of encouraging the export trade of Japan. After consultation with the officials concerned, with the Bank of Japan, with the Specie Bank, with the Nippon Yusen Kaisha, with the various guilds interested in major staples of export, and with influential men, proposals have been drafted which, it is hoped, will be reduced ultimately to a working basis. The outlines of the project are as follows:—

Financial Matters.

1. To prevent violent fluctuations of exchange.
2. To provide facilities for bills connected with the import of raw materials for manufactured exports.
3. To make arrangements for silver loans at important harbours in China.
4. To complete the banking organisations in Manchuria and Korea.
5. To make financial arrangements with regard to the transport of exports from the place of production to the port of shipment.

Transport Matters.

1. Reductions by the Government in the freight of exports or their materials carried by rail.
2. The adoption by all private railways of the rates of freight fixed by the Government according to the above clause.
3. Fixing the processes of transport arrangements on State lines.
4. Opening for exports new routes, direct routes and connections.
5. Reducing the maritime freights in home and foreign waters for exports.

Guild Matters.

1. Establishment of guilds in special circumstances only.

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 16 Weeks ended 20th April, 1905.

	Week ended 20th April, 1905.	16 Weeks ended 20th April, 1905.	Week ended 20th April, 1905.	16 Weeks ended 20th April, 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	87,716	1,148,250	1,902	114,428
Brazilian	—	15,466	—	328
East Indian	849	18,142	200	5,025
Egyptian	6,160	189,421	2,382	41,976
Miscellaneous	1,505*	22,916†	98	1,007‡
Total	96,230	1,394,195	4,582	162,764

* Including 258 bales British West Indian.
† Including 727 bales British West African and 1,326 bales British West Indian.
‡ Including 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 22nd April, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 22nd April, 1905	30	8	24	4	17	5
Corresponding week in—						
1898	38	4	27	10	18	11
1899	25	0	25	10	17	5
1900	26	0	25	2	17	11
1901	26	8	25	8	18	8
1902	28	9	26	5	21	6
1903	26	1	21	9	17	9
1904	27	9	22	0	16	4

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of March, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the April issue:—State of the Labour Market in March; Wages in the Cotton Trade; Co-operative Credit Societies; Relief of the Unemployed; Prices of Coal and Iron; and Recent Conciliation and Arbitration Cases.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,340. Trade of Venice, 1903-4.

Returns of all shipping at the port.

Progress of the Venice-Calcutta s.s. line. List of goods suitable for the trade.

Plans of river navigation in Northern Italy.

Statements of imports and exports.

Account of silk and other industries.

Proposed harbour and other public works.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,342. Trade of Chemnitz and Saxony, 1904.

Continued progress in all branches of industry but textiles.

Increased demand for light Lisle hose and lace hose.

British manufacturers of boots, kid gloves and other kindred goods are recommended to open joint shops.

Rates of discount; dividends declared by various industrial stock companies.

Exports to the United States.

No. 3,343. Finances and General Economic Conditions of Austria-Hungary, 1900-04.

Statements of Austrian revenue and expenditure for the years 1900 to 1903, with analysis of various items.

Estimates of revenue and expenditure for 1904 and 1905.

Account of principal taxes, direct and indirect, in Austria.

Statement of the scope of the Austrian Ministry of Commerce.

Railway statistics and programme.

Production of minerals and output of smelting furnaces.

Position of Austrian Government securities.

Review of Hungarian budgets, 1900–04. Progress of movement for encouragement of trade and industry.

Tables relating to harvest, mining and smelting production, sugar production, &c.

Railway statistics.

Account of Hungarian national debt.

Table showing the joint budget, 1880–1905.

Value of imports and exports of the principal articles in the foreign trade of the Dual Monarchy for the years 1900 to 1904 (first six months).

Austro-Hungarian commercial treaties.

Currency reform.

No. 3.344. Trade of Canton, 1904.

Import and export figures demonstrate advancing prosperity, due to improved inland communication.

Noteworthy increase in the exports of staple products of the Canton province—tea excepted.

Analysis of import trade, showing classes of goods in which trade is growing.

Progress of railway works.

Tables of principal articles of import and export in 1904, as compared with 1903, and with the average for the preceding five years.

No. 3,345. Trade of Coquimbo, 1904.

No official trade returns available for 1904.

Condition of mining and copper smelting industries.

Particulars of import trade in clothing, coal and ironmongery; inferior quality goods most in demand.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,346. Trade and Agriculture of Consular District of Calais, 1904.

Review of import trade.

Local trade in British goods small.

Condition of the lace and tulle industry, and of other local industries.

Production of coal, coke and patent fuel.

Statistics of imports and exports.

This publication contains also reports by H.M. Representatives at Boulogne, Lille, Croix, Amiens and Gravelines.

No. 3,347. Trade of Consular District of Buenos Ayres, 1904.

Increase of 19 per cent. in exports and of 42 per cent. in imports, as compared with 1903, due to abundant harvest.

Examination of the classes of goods showing variations.

Openings for development of British trade; hints to traders; articles in demand.

Industrial progress. Railway and dock extension.

Tables of imports, exports and shipping.

This publication contains also reports by H.M. Consular Representatives at Puerto Gallegos, Bahia Blanca, La Plata, San Nicolas, and Campana.

No. 3,348. Trade of Texas, 1904.

Growth of Galveston's trade, almost exclusively exports. Efforts to increase foreign imports. List of principal articles imported from the United Kingdom.

Statistics of the cotton trade.

Tables of imports and exports of principal articles at Galveston, showing principal countries participating.

Port facilities. Building of sea wall.

This publication contains also a report by the British Vice-Consul at Sabine Pass and Port Arthur.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Tables relating to the Trade of British India with British Possessions and Foreign Countries, 1899-1900 *to* 1903-04. [*Cd.* 2473.] *Price* 1*s.* 3*d.*

This return contains statistics of the foreign trade of British India during the last five financial years. In 1903-04 the total value of the imports of merchandise (exclusive of Government stores) into British India by sea was 56,548,862*l.* as compared with 52,525,272*l.* in 1902-03, whilst the total value of the exports of merchandise of Indian produce and manufactures (exclusive of

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Government Publications.

Government stores) was 99,756,049*l.* as against 83,919,834*l.* in the preceding financial year. The total of the imports into, and the exports from, British India by land and sea (inclusive of Government stores and treasure) amounted in 1903-04 to 208,963,709*l.*, as compared with 175,314,614*l.* in 1902-03.

Coal Imports (France). 121. *Price* ½*d.*

This is a return showing the quantity of coal (including coke and patent fuel) imported into France from Germany, Belgium, Holland, the United Kingdom, and other sources in each of the years 1895-1904, distinguishing separately imports by sea and imports by land.

The following table shows the total imports of coal, &c., into France from the countries named during the last two years:—

——	1903.	1904.*
	Tons.	Tons.
United Kingdom...	7,036,042	7,002,167
Germany	2,033,498	1,996,489
Belgium	4,922,283	4,921,926
Holland	424,976	} 439,826
Other sources	12,047	
Total	14,428,846	14,360,408

* Provisional figures, subject to rectification.

Industrial Alcohol Committee. Minutes of Evidence. [*Cd.* 2,477.] *Price* 2*s.* 4*d.*

This publication contains minutes of the evidence taken before the Departmental Committee on Industrial Alcohol, and appendices showing the duties and allowances on British spirits and duties on foreign spirits; regulations for its use for industrial purposes in the United Kingdom, United States, and in the principal European countries; together with an abstract of the approximate quantities of unmineralised methylated spirits used in manufacturing operations, &c., in the United Kingdom during 1901, and a comparative table of the quantity of spirits, etc., used in making methylated spirits, and of the methylated spirits produced for the five years ending 31st March, 1904.

INFORMATION ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

Information on the subjects named in the notice on the cover will be found in the following Board of Trade publications, obtainable in London upon application to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W., and their Sub-Agents, Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.; in

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Government Publications.

Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, at the prices named, viz.:—

1 "Board of Trade Journal," 3rd September, 1903, pp. 448–61, 5th May, 1904, p. 216, 4th August, 1904, p. 212, 10th November, 1904, pp. 265-6, 9th February, 1905, p. 259, 30th March, 1905, p. 596, and 6th April, 1905, pp. 25-6, at 1*d.* per number.
Differential Duties Return (Cd. 2,394) at 1*s.* 6*d.*

2, 3, 4, 5 Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom, 51st number (Cd. 2,192) at 1*s.* 3*d.* ... ... pp. 28/29, p. 12, pp. 176/191, pp. 57/157

5 Monthly Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation (25. II) at 1*s.*
Annual Statement of Trade, 1903. Vol. I. (Cd. 2,043) at 7*s.* 1*d.* ... pp. 166 *et seq.*
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On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Among the branches of work now carried on by the Imperial Institute at South Kensington are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which is exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Imperial Institute Bulletin," issued quarterly, contains information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

March, 1905.

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SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

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March, 1905.

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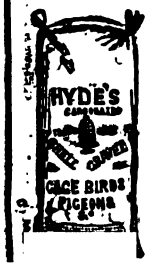

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Cotton Bagging—
Judge, T. & W., London, S.E.

Cotton Goods—
Anderson, D. & J., Bridgeton, Glasgow ... ...
Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury
Spinner, E., & Co., Manchester ... ...

Cotton Waste—
Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ...

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Russell, George, & Co., Motherwell, N.B. ... ...

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Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway Co., Wyre Dock, Fleetwood ... ...

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Electric Novelties—

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Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorkhouse ... ...

Engineers' Oil Cans—

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Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ... ...

Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

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Baird, W., & Co., Glasgow (Pig Iron, Coal, Coke, &c.) ...

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Pulsometer Engineering Co., Ltd., The, Reading and London ... ...

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Fancywood Merchants—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Fan Makers—
Howorth, James, & Co., Farnworth, near Manchester ...

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Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

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Kenyon, James, & Son, Bury

Fencing (Steel and Iron)—
Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

File Manufacturers—
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Filter Manufacturers—
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Barnard, Bishop & Barnards, Ltd., Norwich ... ...

Gauge Glasses—
Butterworth Bros., Newton Heath, Manchester ... ...
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Tomey, Joseph, & Sons, Messrs., Ltd., Manor Glass Works, Aston, Birmingham

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Flack, Henry, London, S.E...
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Lathes (Turning, Polishing, &c.)—
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Oil Cans—
Bladon, T. E., 99 & 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Oil Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...
The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Oil Mill Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Oil Refiners, Distillers, & Mfrs.—
Bremner, Jno. A., & Co., Manchester C
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh 22
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool 6

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Oxides—
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Dickinson, J., & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
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Hollingsworth & Co., Maidstone ... ...
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Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ...

Paper Makers' Tools—
Crookes, Roberts & Co., Sheffield ... ...

Parquet Flooring—
Geary, Walker & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Patent Fuel Machinery—
Middleton, Robert, Sheepscar, Leeds... ... ...

Pavement Light Lenses—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Birmingham ... ...

Paving Bricks—
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

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Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

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Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., Canterbury Road, London, N.W. (Railway Signals, &c.) ... ...

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Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham ... ...

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Railway Signals—
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Piggott Bros., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Rubber Tyres—
Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N. ... ...

Sacks and Bags—
Judge, T. & W., London, E.C. (Cotton) ... ...
Knowles, Clarence C., & Co., 19, Brunswick Street, Liverpool, and London, E. ...
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

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Rawle & Son, 231 and 232, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E. ... ...

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Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Sheep Dip (both Arsenical and Nicotine)—
Richards, G. H., 234, Borough High Street, S.E. ... ...

Sheep Deep (Nicotine)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E.... C

Sheep Dip Manufacturers—
Cooper, Wm., & Nephews, Berkhamsted, Makers of the Original Powder Dip...

Sheep Shearing Machines—
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THE

Board of Trade Journal

(With which is incorporated the "Imperial Institute Journal.")

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

MAY 4, 1905.

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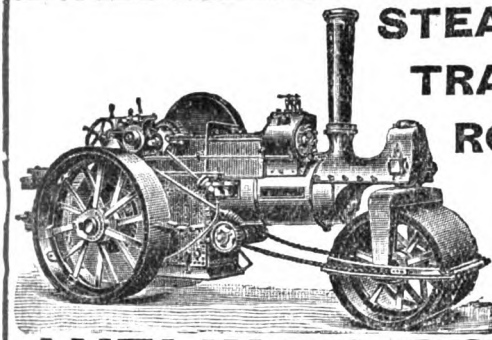

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Agencies, London. 805 & 806, Westminster.

CONTRACTS.

KIRKCALDY.—May 8th.—Supplying and fixing two additional water-tube boilers, for the Corporation. The Borough Electrical Engineer, Electricity Works. (Fee, £1 1s., returnable.)

LONDON, E.C. — May 8th. — Motor-coach, for the Agent-General for South Australia. Mr. Hy. Allerdale Grainger, agent-general, Threadneedle House, Bishopsgate Street Within, London, E.C.

LONDON, S.E.—May 16th.—Supply, erection, and maintenance of a battery of 280 accumulator cells, for the London County Council. The County Hall, Spring Gardens, S.W. (Fee, £2, returnable.)

LONDON, S.W.—May 16th.—Manufacture and erection of three 10-ton overhead travelling hand cranes, for the London County Council. The County Hall, Spring Gardens, S.W. (Fee, £2, returnable.)

MANCHESTER.—May 13th. — Exhausters, etc., for the Gas Committee. Mr. C. Nickson, superintendent, Gas Department, Town Hall.

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Security for the due fulfilment of the contracts will be required in accordance with the provisions of the Public Health Act, 1875.

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J. LESLIE G. POWELL,
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HUDDERSFIELD.—May 8th.—Provision and erection of ash-elevating plant and storage tank; also slack-elevating and conveying arrangements, &c., for the Corporation. Mr. A. B. Mountain, Borough Electrical Engineer, St. Andrew's Road, Huddersfield.

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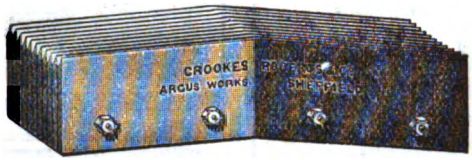

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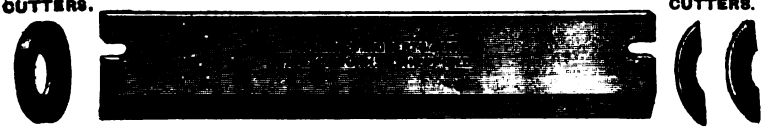

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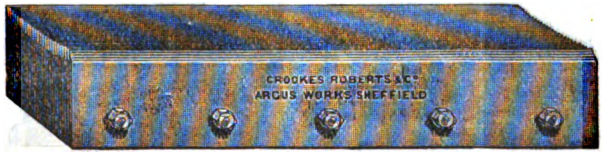

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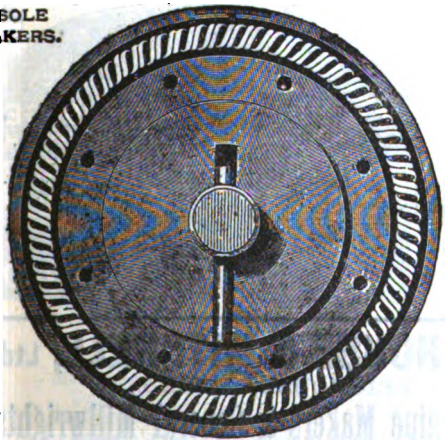

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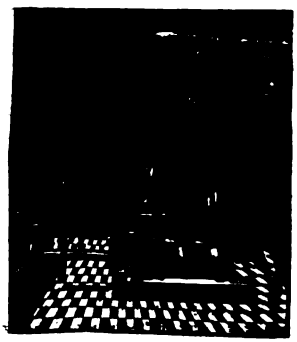

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Coal Exports for 1904. [112/1905.] Price 4*d.*

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Colonial Import Duties Return, 1904. [Cd. 2185/04.] Price 2*s.* 1*d.*

Companies (Winding Up). Thirteenth Annual Report. [311/1904.] Price 6*d.*

Emigration and Immigration.—Statistical Tables and Report, 1904. [137/05.] Price 8*d.*

Extracts from Diplomatic and Consular Reports. Coal. [343.] Price 8*d.*

Foreign Import Duties, 1904. [Cd. 2340/05.] Price 2*s.*

Index to Consular Reports, 1903. [Cd. 2148/04.] Price 1*s.*

Iron and Steel, 1903. Statistical Tables. [244/1904.] Price 3*d.*

Labour Department.—Ninth Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom. 1901—02. [Cd. 1755/03.] Price 1*s.*

Labour Department.—Changes in Wages and Hours of Labour. [Cd. 2199/04.] Price 7*d.*

Labour Department.—Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on the Strikes and Lock-outs of 1903, with Statistical Tables. [Cd. 2112/04.] Price 7*d.*

Life Assurance Companies' Return, 1904. [I./1905.] Price 3*s.*

Patent Office.—Report for the Year 1903. [178/04.] Price 5½*d.*

Railway Returns for the United Kingdom, 1903. [Cd. 2193/04.] Price 1*s.* 4*d.*

Shipping Casualties—Abstracts of Returns of Shipping Casualties on or near the Coasts of the United Kingdom, 1902-03 (with Charts and Appendices). [Cd. 2212/04.] Price 4*s.* 7*d.*

Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom. 1889-1903. [Cd. 2192/1904.] Price 1*s.* 3d.

Statistical Abstract for the British Empire, 1889-1903. [Cd. 2395.] Price 6*d.*

Statistical Abstract for the Colonies. 1889-1903. [Cd. 1912/04.] Price 1*s.* 10*d.*

Statistical Abstract for Foreign Countries. 1892 to 1901-02. [Cd. 2202/04.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

Statistical Tables relating to British Colonies, Possessions, and Protectorates. Part XXVII. 1902. [Cd. 2184/04.] Price 7*s.*

Tables showing the Progress of Merchant Shipping in the United Kingdom and the principal maritime countries, 1903. [294/1904.] Price 9*d.*

Tramways and Light Railways (Street and Road) Return. [310/05.] Price 6*d.*

II.—MONTHLY RETURNS—

Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for each month during the Year. March, 1905. [25-II/05.] Price 1*s.*

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British Colonies (Duties on Imports). No. 299/03. Price ½*d.*

Canada (Preferential Tariff for Goods from the United Kingdom). 310/03. Price ½*d.*

Certificates of Origin. Memorandum. [Cd. 1446 03.] Price 3*d.*

Commercial Mission to South Africa.—Report from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [Cd. 1844/03.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

Commercial Mission to Persia.—Reports from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [Cd. 2146.] Price 1*s.* 3*d.* [Cd. 2281.] Price 1½*d.*

Commercial Travellers. Memorandum. [Cd. 1961.] Price 3*d.*

Conciliation (Trades Disputes) Act, 1896. Fourth Report. [Cd. 1846/03.] Price 6*d.*

Continental Free Ports. Return. 344. Price 2½*d.*

Exports from the United Kingdom of Woollen and Cotton Goods and Cutlery in 1877, 1882, 1887, &c., and 1902. [327/03.] Price ½*d.*

Food Supplies (Imported) Return. 179/03.] Price 4½*d.*

German Tariff (New) as modified by Treaties. [Cd. 2414.] Price 1*s.* 10*d.*

Imports and Exports of United Kingdom by Groups of Countries. [214/1903.] Price ½*d.*

Labour Department.—Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on Trade Unions in 1901, with Comparative Statistics, [Cd. 1348/02.] Price 11½*d.*

Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry and Commerce of the United Kingdom and some leading Foreign Countries. [Cd. 1199/1902.] Price 5½*d.*

Preferential Trade Return, showing the advantages granted to other countries in States where British trade does not enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment. [329/1903.] Price 1½*d.*

Report to the Board of Trade by the Advisory Committee on Commercial Intelligence, with reference to their Proceedings. [Cd. 2,044/04.] Price 4½*d.*

Trade and Shipping of Africa, with Maps and Statistical Tables. [C. 9223/99.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

Trade and Shipping of South-East Asia, with Map and Statistical Tables. [Cd. 324/01.] Price 1*s.* 0½*d.*

Trade between the United Kingdom, Canada and Germany. Return. [328/1903.] Price 4*d.*

Trade of the United Kingdom with Germany. [131.] Price 1½*d.*

Trade of British Colonies with Foreign Countries. [110/1904.] Price 2*d.*

Trade (Colonies and United Kingdom). Return. [262/03.] Price 2*d.*

Unemployed in Foreign Countries. Report. [Cd. 2304.] Price 1*s.*

Wholesale and Retail Prices in the United Kingdom in 1902, with comparative Statistics Tables for a series of years. [321/1903.] Price 2*s.* 1*d.*

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Board of Trade Journal.

MAY 4TH, 1905.

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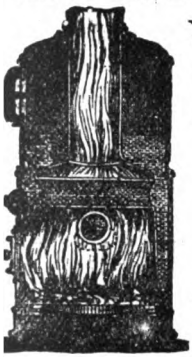

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLIX.] May 4, 1905. [No. 440

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 237.

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 238.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: ADMIRALTY.

Tenders will be received until noon on Wednesday, the 10th May, for the supply of steel nails.

Steel Nails. Forms of tender, containing conditions of contract and all particulars, may be obtained on personal application at the Contract Department, Admiralty, or by letter addressed "Director of Navy Contracts, Admiralty, London, S.W."

Forms of tender may also be obtained and patterns seen at the Admiralty Pattern Rooms, Great Western Chambers, Livery Street, Birmingham, and at the Town Hall, Dudley, on application to the Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Dudley.

Manufacturers only will be accepted.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA.

Railway Stores.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of:—

1. Steel plates, angle rings and bars, for boilers;
2. Copper firebox plates;
3. Brass boiler tubes;
4. Copper tubes, pipes, and rods;
5. Electric equipment for Jamalpur electricity supply;
6. Paper, stationery, &c.;

as per specifications to be seen at the Company's offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary marked "Tender for Steel Boiler Plates, &c.," or as the case may be, not later than noon, on Wednesday the 10th May.

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

Coke-making Plant.

The "Englishman" (Calcutta), in referring to the expansion of the coal industry in Bengal, and the corresponding increase in the output of coke, says that experiments have been conducted by several of the leading firms interested in the coal industry, with a view to the adoption of a bye-product system. The principal bye-product obtainable in the manufacture of coke is ammonia, for which there is not at present a very large demand in India. But its value as a manuring agent is well recognised, and if it were produced in sufficient quantity a demand would unquestionably arise for it. The experimental stage of the schemes referred to is nearly at an end, and plant capable of making thousands of tons of coke by the most approved method is likely to be ordered within the next few months.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A company manufacturing sauces, and also metal and furniture polish, are prepared to appoint a Canadian resident agent.

A firm possessing a connection in the boot and shoe trade are willing to represent first-class Canadian manufacturers of boots and shoes.

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Openings for British Trade.

Canadian Enquiries.—A firm of manufacturers and commission agents in Vancouver, British Columbia, are prepared to act as agents for United Kingdom manufacturers of such goods as saw mills supplies, glass, stationery, paints, and confectionery.

A British Columbia firm are willing to act as buying agents in that market for United Kingdom importers of timber. United Kingdom references.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—NEW SOUTH WALES.

Iron and Steel Manufacture.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Agent-General for New South Wales a copy of the conditions of contract for the supply and delivery of steel and iron (including the whole of the pig-iron and rolled steel and iron required by the Government of New South Wales) for a period of seven years.

The contractor is to establish within the State blast furnace or furnaces, and erect all machinery and plant necessary for the conversion of iron ore into pig-iron, and rolled steel and iron, and capable of supplying all the materials included in the contract,

Tenderers must state the rates per ton at which they are prepared to manufacture, supply and deliver the material required. Practically the whole of the ore used must be raised within the Commonwealth. Tenders will be received at the office of the Secretary for Public Works, Sydney, New South Wales, up to 2 p.m. on Friday, 1st September, 1905.

The full conditions of contract, specification, and schedule of sizes of iron and steel materials required, together with notes on the iron-ore, coal, and limestone deposits of the State, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

SOUTH AFRICA.

Hard Wood Sleepers.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies, acting on behalf of the Administration of the Central South African Railways, invite tenders for the supply of 125,000 hard wood sleepers of either approved Jarrah, Karri, or other suitable Australian hard wood, or of approved Djatti wood. Specification and conditions of contract, containing form of tender, can be obtained on application at the Office of the

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Openings for British Trade.

Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W., between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.), on payment of 1*l.* per copy, which will be returned on receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender for the whole or any portion of the sleepers required.

Tenders are to be delivered in sealed envelopes addressed to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, S.W., not later than Tuesday, 16th May, endorsed "Tender for Sleepers, C.S.A.R."

The Crown Agents do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

LAGOS.

Public Works.

The "Lagos Weekly Record" publishes the Estimates of the Colony for the year 1905-6. Included among the Public Works, for which provision is made, are the following schemes:—Telegraph extension to Akuri (5,500*l.*); road construction and draining (about 8,200*l.*); Customs warehouse (3,000*l.*); sewage removal (2,000*l.*); electric light and telephone (2,000*l.*); floating dock (20,000*l.*).

GERMANY.

British-made Goods.

The British Vice-Consul at Chemnitz (Mr. F. H. Felkin) reports that British-made goods of various kinds could be more extensively sold in Germany if proper methods were adopted for introducing them. The obvious way would be to offer them direct to the public. For instance, large manufacturers of boots, kid gloves, and other kindred goods, should jointly open shops in a prominent locality of the larger cities. Sending out British catalogues to wholesale houses is productive of very small results.

Preserved Fruits and Marmalade.

Preserved fruits and marmalade are expensive luxuries in Germany, the latter being practically unknown. If makers would take steps to place them directly before the public, they might become as popular as in the United Kingdom. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series,* 3,342.)

NETHERLANDS.

Coal.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Rotterdam (Mr. H. Turing), that tenders will be received up to the 12th May by the Director of Naval Establishments at Willemsoord, for the supply and delivery of about 3,300 tons of English coal (East Coast). The coal must be from one of the following mines:—

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Openings for British Trade.

South Yorkshire, Edmund or Mitchell,
Sunderland, Lambton West.Hartley,
Davison's West Hartley,
Hastings Hartley,
Broomhill West Hartley,
Wombwell Main,
Wilson's Glencraig,
Whitehill.

It must not contain more than 15 per cent. of small coal. Certificate of origin, *visaed* by the Netherlands Consul at port of shipment, must be produced.

H.M. Consul calls attention to the fact that no tenders direct from English firms can be accepted, one of the conditions being that tenders must be made through Dutch firms.

BELGIUM.

Woollen Socks.

The "Moniteur Belge" of 2nd May contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply to the Belgian Army of 62,900 pairs of machine-knitted woollen socks, in five lots of 12,580 pairs each. Tenders will be opened at 11 a.m. on the 17th May, at the Ministry of War, Brussels, where samples and specifications may be inspected.

FRANCE.

Canadian Timber and Wood Pulp.

H.M. Consul at Calais (Mr. C. A. Payton) in his report for 1904, remarks that the very large importation of timber, in pit-props, planks and poles from Scandinavian countries, Russian Finland gaining an increased proportion over Norway and Sweden, suggests a possibility of Canada contributing, if a parity of freight would allow of it.

An allied article is wood-pulp, the importation of which from Finland and Norway shows steady increase, but according to information received by the Consul from a London importer, French customs regulations would not readily be complied with by Canadian shippers, even if other conditions were favourable to their competition. They prescribe that the sheets of pressed wood-pulp, to come under the category of "Pâtes de cellulose," at the duty of 5*d.* to 1*s.* 8*d.* per 100 kilogs. according to class, must be perforated with circular holes of not less than 15 millims., about $\frac{5}{8}$ in., in the narrowest part of the aperture, and arranged in the form of a "quincunx," distance between holes not to exceed 12 centims., about $4\frac{3}{4}$ in., measuring from centre to centre. Wood-pulp not so perforated would be treated as "carton" (card-board) and pay a higher duty.

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Openings for British Trade.

FRANCE—*continued.*

Coal.

Mr. Payton says he is frequently asked for lists of coal importers, and in supplying them has pointed out that the importation of coal is small, except in times of strikes in the neighbouring producing district, and that there is little chance of new business being done. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,346.)

SPAIN.

Waterworks Construction.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 26th April contains a notice inviting tenders which will be opened at 11 a.m. on the 29th May, at the offices of the "Ayuntamiento," Roa, for the carrying out of the works needed for the conveyance of drinking water from Villaescusa to Roa, a distance of 8,600 metres, at the upset price of 92,061 pesetas (about 2,760*l.*). A deposit of 4,603 pesetas (about 138*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. The conditions of contract, &c., are on view in the offices of the Secretary of the Ayuntamiento.

Hopper Dredger.

The same "Gaceta" contains a notice calling for tenders, which will be opened 60 days after the publication of the notice, at the offices of the Secretary to the Port Works Board, Almeria, for the provision of a hopper carrier dredger with pump, having a capacity in its buckets of 275 cubic metres, with 300 metres of floating tubing for the discharge of the matter dredged, at the maximum price of 900,000 pesetas (about 27,141*l.*). A deposit of 45,000 pesetas (about 1,357*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Conditions of contract, &c., may be inspected at the above-mentioned offices.

ITALY.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The Italian "Gazzetta Ufficiale" of 24th April contains a Decree sanctioning the construction of an electric tramway between Avellino and Baiano.

Railway Plant.

The same issue of the "Gazzetta" contains a Decree granting a concession to the Municipality of Venice and the Provincial Council of Venetia for the construction of a railway (steam traction) from Mestre to the Austrian frontier *viâ* Castelfranco, Bassano and Primolano.

The "Gazzetta" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

ITALY—SICILY.

Aqueduct for Girgenti Water Supply.

A memorandum has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Palermo (Mr. S. J. A. Churchill) to the effect that an association has been formed between the towns of Girgenti, Favara, Porto Emoedocle, Aragona, Raffadali, Comitini Sant' Angelo and San Biagio, under the Presidency of the Com. V. Consiglio, at Girgenti, for the construction of an aqueduct of masonry and iron tubing which shall lead the Gragotta spring at S. Stefano, Quisquina Bivona district, to the places above mentioned. The Committee now invite tenders for the execution of the work which is estimated to cost 2,028,207 lire (81,128*l.*); tenders must be for less than the estimated cost; they are to be deposited before the 10th June with the President. A deposit of 4,000*l.* is required to qualify any tender. The Consorzio reserve the right of refusing any tender without assigning a reason.

An advertisement of the contract, with full conditions and stipulations, which, in the Consul's opinion, are somewhat onerous and stringent in character, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

BULGARIA.

Railway Construction.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, copy of a notice issued by the Bulgarian Ministry of Public Works, inviting tenders for the construction of (1) a line of railway from Tirnova-Trevna-Barouchtitza (total length about 230 miles), and (2) a line from Radomir to Kustendil and the Turkish frontier (total length about 340 miles).

Tenders for (1) will be received up to 2nd June, a deposit of 700,000 francs (about 28,000*l.*) being required, and for (2) up to 9th June, a deposit of 600,000 francs (about 24,000*l.*) being required. Plans, &c., can be obtained from the Bulgarian Ministry of Public Works, at a total cost of 120 francs (about 5*l.*) for each line. A copy of the notice calling for tenders can be consulted at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Chalk.

H.M. Consul at Calais (Mr. C. A. Payton), reports that Wizernes, about 30 miles from Calais is a large centre of chalk production; a large proportion of the exportation to the United States is from this source. The Consul considers this American demand might be met from the United Kingdom. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,346.)

MEXICO.

Railway Construction and Plant.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Mexico City (Mr. L. Jerome) forwarding an extract from the "Mexican Herald" which gives a long list of railways projected in Mexico. Cases where work has actually been begun or in which contracts have been placed, are distinguished.

The extract may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Hydro-electric Plant.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico of 5th April contains an application from Señor Angel Diáz Rubin for an appropriation of 1,000 litres of water per second from the river Cantarranas, State of Puebla, for the production of motive power.

The "Diario" of 6th April contains similar applications from:—(1) Señor Joaquin D. Casasús, for an appropriation of 5,000 litres per second from the river Atoyac, State of Puebla; and (2) from Señores Jesús Cruz, Clato A. Gutierrez, Refugio Rojas and Rafael Rojas, for an appropriation of 3,250 litres per second from the river Axaxalpa, State of Puebla.

CHILE—BOLIVIA.

Railway Construction: Mining Plant.

On p. 201 will be found a reference to the new commercial treaty between Chile and Bolivia in which the construction of certain railways is stipulated. An impulse to mining operations is expected to result from the provision of means of transport to hitherto unworkable deposits of ore.

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Openings for British Trade.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Ham Curing Industry.

Referring to openings for the development of trade, H.M. Consul at Buenos Ayres (Mr. A. C. Ross, C.B.), in his report for last year, states that there is ample scope for the development of pig rearing and ham curing. The imports of ham into Buenos Ayres in 1904 amounted to 273 tons.

Automobiles.

129 automobiles were imported in 1904, an increase of 67 over 1903. The demand, says the Consul, will continue to increase, as they have been used successfully on the country roads. One car successfully crossed the Andes. They are being imported for the use of the post office, fire brigade and the city ambulance.

Electric Tramway Construction.

A good deal of work has been done in the past year, and more is being done, with regard to electric tramway traction. The results are most satisfactory to the companies and to the public.

Grain Elevators.

Not much has been done yet with regard to the handling of grain in bulk except in the ports, as there are no elevators in the country districts.

Articles in Demand.

Mr. Ross states further that there is a demand for all appliances connected with, or required in, agriculture or grazing; implements, machinery, tools, harness, seeds, bags, twine, fencing wire, iron posts, padlocks (in sets), cattle brands, scales, sheep dip, windmills and other pumps, troughs, iron and clay pipes, veterinary instruments and books, sheath knives, sheet and galvanised iron and enamelled ware; and in a lesser degree for iron pillars and joists for houses, baths and all kinds of up-to-date sanitary fittings, electric tramways, lights, lifts, and bells, floor and wall tiles, water and oil paints, wall papers, brickmaking and stone working machinery, window and table glass, besides clothes and the usual necessaries of life.

Linen Industry.

No flax is worked in the country out of the 1,000,000 tons of stalks available in an ordinary year.

Cement Factory.

There is no cement factory, though the best materials exist in quantities in the country. The import of cement in 1904 was 84,000 tons. In 1903 one-half came from Belgium; the other was shared by the United Kingdom and France.

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Openings for British Trade.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC—*continued.*

Road or Light Railway Construction.

At present, according to the local press, there are no proper roads between farm and railway station. Various schemes have been discussed for the construction of light lines of a metre gauge to act as feeders to the railways, and to further open up communications. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,347.)

CHINA.

Towels.

In a report on the trade of Canton for the year 1904, H.M. Consul-General at that city (Mr. James Scott) remarks that in handkerchiefs and towels the import nearly doubled in 1904, and compared with 1902 was three times as much. British towels amounted to 54,018 dozen, whereas Japanese towels figured in the customs returns for 115,722 dozen. These Japanese towels are thin and flimsy, made of cotton and stamped with some blue pattern. In size they are scarcely any larger than an ordinary handkerchief. But they have one great quality which recommends them to the poorer native—they are cheap, costing only some 2*d.* each. These towels suit native requirements admirably, and year by year their import has been increasing.

Cotton Crape.

Mr. Scott says that another Japanese article much in demand by the people of Canton is cotton crape. This is one of the staple products of Japanese manufacture, and of recent years this crape, both plain and flowered, has come largely into use among Chinese. It is found peculiarly suitable for underwear, not being so cold or chilly to the skin as plain British cotton, nor so thick and warm as flannelette. In 1904 the import was 388,635 yards, valued at 31,355 taels (4,479*l.*). Japan has been successful in laying down in the Canton market a cotton cloth made by hand in imitation of Chinese native cloth. Being cheaper than the real article, this import finds a ready sale, and, as it lasts the summer season, the Chinese are content with it as clothing. In 1903 the import of this imitation native cloth was 63,488 yards, which in 1904 rose to 126,418 yards, that is nearly doubled; but, owing to the rise in the price of raw cotton, the value was fully three times greater than in 1903. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,344.)

JAPAN.

Wood-Working Machinery.

On p. 227 will be found a notice of the intention of the Japanese Department of Agriculture and Commerce to export timber from the State forests to North China and Korea. There should be an opening here for machinery for felling and sawing trees.

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BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Buenos Ayres.—In his report for 1904, H.M. Consul at Buenos Ayres (Mr. A. C. Ross, C.B.) details the following points as worthy of being noted by traders:—"The indispensability of good travellers, as the personal element enters very largely into business; the comparatively limited market for all but agricultural goods, due to the small city populations; and the high cost of living, for 1 dol. paper (1*s.* 9*d.*) has only the purchasing power of 1*s.* Advertising of the most elaborate and expensive type is very much in vogue. Spanish is the language of the country. The metric system of weights and measures is the one used. The Argentine dollar is the currency. The majority of the working people are Italians. . . .

"The opportunities for extension of British trade appear to exist in every direction and in every line of business. The details given in the earlier part of this report make this clear.* . . .

"Letters for the British Consulate should be addressed to 'His Britannic Majesty's Consul, Buenos Ayres'; telegrams to 'Breast rail, Buenos Ayres.'

"Enquiries for addresses of firms doing business in this country should be made to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, where a directory of the Republic is filed for reference." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,347.)

* Some of these are given at pp. 199–200.

COMMERCIAL TREATY BETWEEN CHILE AND BOLIVIA.

Openings for British Enterprise.

In the course of a despatch, received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Legation at Santiago, summarising the commercial treaty between Chile and Bolivia (see pp. 212–13), it is stated that an important stipulation of the Treaty is that Chile undertakes within one year from its ratification to contract for the construction of a railway to connect the port of Arica with La Paz, the capital of Bolivia. The railway is estimated to cost 2,300,000*l.*, but it is stipulated that Chile is not to contribute more than 1,700,000*l.* for the construction of the Bolivian section of this line. It is expected that the contractor will be paid in Chilean bonds.

The new line from Arica to La Paz will be connected with the important mining centre of Oruro, at present only to be reached from the sea coast by the line from Antofagasta, a distance of 560 miles. The new route from Arica will not be more than about 280 miles, ensuring, therefore, a great reduction in the freight to and from Oruro.

In addition, Chile will guarantee 5 per cent. on the capital to be expended on a number of other railways in Bolivia, which may be commenced at any time in the next 30 years, but the guarantee is not to exceed 100,000*l.* per annum.

The chief importance for British enterprise probably lies in the impulse to mining operations which will be caused by the provision of means of transport to hitherto unworkable deposits of ore.

The despatch adds that it is understood that much American and some German capital has of late been invested in the mining properties in Bolivia, where the mining code is said to be a good one.

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LISTS OF POSSIBLE BUYERS OF BRITISH GOODS ABROAD.—GREECE.

The Board of Trade receive from time to time, from His Majesty's representatives in foreign countries and from their own Correspondents in the Colonies, lists of dealers and importers likely to purchase British goods. These lists may be consulted by British manufacturers and traders at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Attention is called to a revised list which has recently been prepared, containing names supplied by His Majesty's Consular Officers in Greece, and dealing with the following towns, viz.: Athens, Corfu, Patras, Piræus, Syra, Volo and Zante, and with the Island of Cephalonia.

Among the classes of goods dealt with in some or all of these lists are :—bedsteads, bicycles, various classes of chemicals, cottons, coals, cutlery, earthenware, glass, groceries, haberdashery, hosiery, salt and dried fish, ships' stores, photographic materials and woollens.

A similar notice in regard to lists of dealers in Belgium which were recently compiled, appeared on page 205 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd February.

NOTE.—No responsibility is accepted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, or its Correspondents, or His Majesty's representatives abroad, in respect of the financial standing of any firms or individuals that may be named in these lists, nor are the lists necessarily exhaustive.

IMPORTS OF COTTON GROWN IN THE BRITISH COLONIES AND POSSESSIONS.

The following statement, showing the number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom from the British Colonies and Possessions, during the three months ended 31st March, 1905, with comparative figures for the preceding three months, has been prepared in the Board of Trade :—

Colony or Possession whence Imported.	Quarter ended 31st Dec., 1904.	Quarter ended 31st Mar., 1905.
	Bales.	Bales.
British India	3,815	14,829
British West Indies	101	917
British West Africa	5,046	347
British Central Africa		1,504
British Guiana	—	2
Total	8,962	17,599

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

BRITISH INDIA.

Countervailing Duties on Sugar.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of a Customs Circular (No. 4 of 1905) stating that "the Government of India have recently had under consideration the questions of the levy of countervailing duties on sugar brought into India, and of the form of the certificates of origin which should be required from importers."

The Government of India state that they are of opinion that sufficient time has now elapsed since the coming into operation of the Brussels Convention of 1902, viz., 1st September, 1903, to render the danger negligible of raw sugar produced in contracting countries before 31st August, 1903, or of sugar refined from such raw sugar, being introduced into British India, and they accordingly cancel the Notifications, Nos. 7,249 S. R. and 7,251 S. R. of 2nd December, 1903, and No. 7,899 S. R. of 24th December, 1903,* respecting certificates of origin, and they also take the opportunity of rescinding various Notifications* by which countervailing duties were imposed on sugar imported from Germany, Belgium, Austria-Hungary, Italy, France, and Holland.

It is stated in the Circular that countervailing duties still remain in force on sugar imported from the following countries :—

Additional duties under section 8 A of Act 8 of 1894, as amended by Acts 14 of 1899, and 12 of 1903 :—

Denmark,
Chile,
Argentine Republic.

Special duties under section 8 B of Act 8 of 1894 as amended by Act 8 of 1902 :—

Denmark,
Argentine Republic,
Russia.

[NOTE.—The countervailing duties imposed in each of the above cases have been notified, from time to time, in the "Board of Trade Journal."]

The Indian Government also draw attention in the present Circular to the fact that as the above-mentioned Notification No. 7,251 S. R. of 2nd December, 1903, has been cancelled, the only certificate which importers will now be required to produce are those prescribed in the revised rules published as Customs Circular No. 10 of 1904 (for which *see* "Board of Trade Journal" for 22nd September, 1904).

* These Notifications are cancelled by Notification No. 535 of 11th March, 1905.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NEW ZEALAND.

Customs Decisions.

A copy of the "New Zealand Gazette" for 9th March last has been received containing Customs decisions (Commissioner's Order No. 771), relating to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into New Zealand.

The following are the principal decisions given :—

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
Aluminium plates, polished for sign-writing or printing on—	
As manufactures, n.o.e., of metal	20 % *ad val.*
Belts, chain, for engine-governors—	
As belting, other than leather	Free
Bolts, holding-down—	
As manufactures, n.o.e., of metal	20 % *ad val.*
Bushes, patent oilless—	
As manufactures, n.o.e., of metal	20 % "
*Copper fittings, stamped or blocked, and copper spouts—	
As articles and materials suited only for, and to be used solely in, the fabrication of goods in the Colony ...	Free
Chain known as "Dodge" chain; the attachments in connection therewith—	
As manufactures of metal, n.o.e.	20 % *ad val.*
Reverse gear, auto-marine, and shafting for oil engines—	
As machinery, n.o.e.	20 % "
Sickle and tool grinder, the "Jewel," a corundum grinding-machine—	
As emery grinding-machine	Free
Turpentine substitute—	
As oil, mineral...	6*d.* per gallon
Umbrella material—viz., mercerised cotton, imitation of Levantine silk mixture, 44 in. wide and over—	
As umbrella-makers' materials	Free

* Revised decision.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Artificially Coloured Sugar Prohibited.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" for 31st March last, in which notice is given under date of 30th March to the effect, "that persons selling, exposing or attempting to sell, or importing as merchandise, sugar artificially coloured to fraudulently imitate Demerara sugar, or other naturally coloured sugar," are liable to proceedings under the provisions of "The Sale of Food and Drugs and Seeds Act, 1890."

The above mentioned "Sale of Food and Drugs and Seeds Act" provides that articles found to be imported in contravention of the Act shall be forfeited and destroyed, or otherwise disposed of, as the Treasurer of the Colony may direct.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

EGYPT.

Valuation Tariff for Raw Silk.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 8th April contains the text of a revised Valuation Tariff in use by the Egyptian Customs authorities for the purpose of assessing import duties on raw silk. The Tariff, which came into force on the 9th April, and is to remain in operation for seven months, or until denunciation, is as follows:—

Description of Raw Silk.	Valuation per kilog.*
	Millièmes.†
Italian, yellow and white (fine)	650
" " " ("*Akadi*")	490
Chinese and Japanese, white (fine)	900
Chinese, yellow (fine)	730
Japanese, white ("*Akadi*" and "*Taklid Shamt*")	400
Russian, white and yellow	980
Persian " " ("*Racht*")	1,050
" " " ("*Shamt*")	1,150
Indian and Indo-Chinese, yellow ("*Menawi Akadi*")	300
Chinese ("*Spaolo*")	240
Broussan and Syrian, yellow and white ("*Akadi*")	530
" " " (fine)	730
" " white (fine)	900
"*Shamt*" from Syria, of all qualities	960
"*Maftoul*," of whatever origin	1,100
"*Maftoul*," European, dupion	780

Valuation Tariff for Hemp and Jute Cloth, Sacks, and Twine.

The "Journal Officiel" for the 15th April contains a revised Valuation Tariff for assessing import duties on hemp and jute cloth, sacks, and twine. This Tariff, which came into force on the 17th April, and is to remain in operation for one year, or until denunciation, is as follows:—

Articles.	Valuation per kilog.*	
	Indian Sacks.	European Sacks.
	Millièmes.†	Millièmes.†
Hessian jute or hemp sacks, made of plain cloth, common quality	24	29
Twilled hessian jute or hemp sacks, common quality	17½	20
Hessian jute or hemp cloth, plain or twilled, common quality, not exceeding 4½*d.* per yard for plain	29	
Jute or hemp untwist twine	25	
Sacks, old	14½	

* Duty is levied on these valuations at the rate of 8 per cent.
† 1,000 millièmes = £E1 = 1*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

RUSSIA.

Importation of Celluloid Articles by Post.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 455 of the "Journal" for the 8th December, 1904, on the subject of the regulations restricting the importation by post of parcels containing articles of celluloid, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that by a Circular dated 21st March, 1905, the Russian Customs Department have announced that parcels sent by post from abroad containing articles wholly or partly made of celluloid will not be subject to the above-mentioned restrictions when such parcels are packed in wooden or tin boxes.

SWEDEN.

Tariff Alteration.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a despatch from H.M. Consul at Stockholm, reporting that the Swedish import duty on emery cloth, glass cloth, and flint cloth (Tariff No. 586) has been altered from 10 per cent. *ad valorem* to 25 öre per kilog. (1½*d.* per lb.).

The new duty came into force on the 17th April.

FRANCE.

New Port Dues at Bordeaux.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a despatch from H.M. Consul at Bordeaux, reporting that a Ministerial Decree has been issued authorising the Chamber of Commerce of Bordeaux to raise the necessary funds for building new docks at that place by imposing the following maximum charges on all goods imported or exported at the port in the oversea trade :—

3 centimes per parcel on all goods in casks, cases, sacks, or other packings.

5 centimes per 1,000 kilogrammes (1 metric ton), or cubic metre, on goods in bulk.

3 centimes per head for live or slaughtered horses, cattle, sheep, goats, or swine.

The above dues, which are already in force, are applicable to goods entering or leaving Bordeaux on board vessels which do not themselves enter the port, but effect their loading or discharging operations below the latter. Articles sent by parcel post are exempted.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

FRENCH WEST AFRICAN COLONIES.

Customs Tariff. The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a French Presidential Decree, dated the 14th April, 1905, approving a revised Customs Tariff for the French Possessions in West Africa. The new Tariff, which unifies the Tariffs of the various Possessions, so far as existing International Conventions permit, is as follows:—

A.—Import Duties.

Articles.	Unit.	Territories situated outside the Zone covered by the Convention of 14th June, 1898 (Gaboon, Guinea, Senegal).		Territories under the régime of the Convention of 14th June, 1898 (Ivory Coast, Dahomey).
		Import Duties on French or French Colonial Products.	Surtax on Foreign Products.	
		Frs. Cts.	Frs. Cts.	Frs. Cts.
Rocksalt	100 kilogs.	1 50	0 50	1 50
Marine salt...	"	1 50	0 50	1 00
Tobacco in the leaf	"	100 00	—	100 00*
Tobacco, manufactured	"	150 00	50 00	200 00*
Sugar	100 kilogs. real weight	5 00	5 50†	5 00
Kola nuts	100 kilogs.	Free	75 00	50 00‡
Building materials (bricks, tiles, flagstones, lime, cement, plaster, planks, joists unworked) ...	—	5 % *ad val.*	7 % *ad val.*	10% *ad val.*‡
Alcohol	Hectol. of pure alcohol	160 00	30 00	160 00
Spirits (*liqueurs*)	Hectol.	112 50	25 00	112 50
"Trade" spirits 25° and below ...	"	60 00	15 00	60 00
Wines above 16°	"	Duti	able as al	cohol.
Arms	—	15 % *ad val.*	7 % *ad val.*	20 % *ad val.*
Gunpowder and saltpetre... ...	100 kilogs.	50 00	20 00	100 00*
Other ammunition...	—	15 % *ad val.*	7 % *ad val.*	20 % *ad val.*
Coffee	—	5 % " §	7 % " ¶	10 % " ¶
Bananas	—	5 % " §	7 % " **	10 % "
Oils (palm, touloucouma, illipé, palmetto)	100 kilogs.	5 % "	1 00	Free
Products not specially mentioned in the above Tariff or in the list of exemptions	—	5 % "	7 % *ad val.*	10 % *ad val.*

The *ad valorem* duties are levied on the value of the article at the place of importation. This value is fixed in accordance with the official list of prices; if not included in the official list, the invoice price increased by 25 per cent. is taken.

* 50 francs in Dahomey.
† In addition to any countervailing duties leviable on bounty-fed sugar.
‡ Free in Dahomey.
§ Free in Guinea.
¶ 78 frs. per 100 kilogs. in Guinea and in the Ivory Coast.
** 5 frs. per 100 kilogs. in Guinea.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

General Exemptions.—The following are the principal articles free of all duties:—

Live animals; fresh meat, fish, fruits and vegetables; potatoes; tapioca and yams; seeds for sowing; palm kernels, sesame, fresh or dried pimento, unhusked rice; agricultural machines and implements; coal; books; scientific instruments and instruments of precision; manure; ships; empty boxes and casks, put together or not.

B.—Export Duties.

All export duties are suppressed with the exception of that on caoutchouc, on which duty is levied at the rate of 7 per cent. of the value at the time of exportation, as indicated by the official list of prices.

C.—Additional Duty on Indirect Importation.

Goods of any origin imported into French Guinea after having passed in transit through any country of the continent of Africa other than a French Colony:—

		Frs.	cts.
Powder and ammunition ...	100 kilogs.	20	00
Tobacco	"	10	00
Tissues and articles of clothing	"	25	00
All other articles	"	3	60

BELGIUM.

Importation of Horses Suffering from Glanders Prohibited.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a despatch from H.M. Minister at Brussels, reporting that the Belgian Government have prohibited the disembarkation of horses suffering or suspected to be suffering from glanders.

Confirmation of the Excise Duty on Sugar.

The "Moniteur Belge" for the 28th December last contains the text of a Law, dated 26th December, establishing the excise duty on sugar at the rate temporarily fixed by the Law of 21st August, 1903* (20 francs per 100 kilogs.).

SPAIN.

Further Reduction of Duties on Wheat and Wheat Flour.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 498 of the "Journal" for the 15th December last relative to the proposed reduction of the import duties on wheat and wheat flour to 4 and 7 pesetas per 100 kilogs. respectively, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of a Royal Decree which appeared in the "Gaceta de Madrid" for the 7th April, and which came into force on the same date, providing for the reduction of the duty on wheat and flour to the rates mentioned.

* In accordance with the Law of 21st August, 1903, the duty of 20 francs per 100 kilogs. was to be reduced to 15 francs on the 1st January, 1907, if the duty of 20 francs were not in the meantime confirmed by fresh legislation.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

These reduced duties are to remain in force while the price of wheat in the markets of Castile exceeds 28 pesetas per 100 kilogs. When the price falls to between 28 and 27 pesetas, the duties fixed by the Law of the 14th March, 1904, will be levied (*i.e.*, wheat, 6 pesetas; wheat flour, 10 pesetas per 100 kilogs.), and when the price falls below 27 pesetas, the duties fixed by the Customs Tariff (8 and 13·2 pesetas respectively) will be re-established.

MOROCCO.

Exportation of Bones Permitted.

The Board of Trade have received information, through the Foreign Office, to the effect that the Sultan of Morocco has issued orders permitting the exportation of bones from the 6th May until the 29th October next, under the same regulations as were previously in force.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Countervailing Duty on Argentine Sugar.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a Circular issued by the United States Treasury Department on the 1st April, directing that the countervailing duty on sugar imported into the United States from the Argentine Republic is to be calculated in future at the rate of 11¼ centavos per kilog.

Standard of Purity for Food Products.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a Circular of the United States Department of Agriculture containing a list of the "standard definitions" of pure food already established, to which imported food-stuffs must conform.

This Circular comprises a re-statement of the standards proclaimed on 21st November, 1903, together with certain additional standards which have since been established (*e.g.*, those for grain and grain products, honey, wine, and vinegar).

The Circular may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Communication to Importers of Results of Analyses of Imported Food Products.

The Board have also received a copy of a Circular of the United States Treasury Department, providing, in the case of imported food products which have been analysed by the Department of Agriculture under the Pure Food Law, that when the results of the analyses warrant the further detention of the invoice, in order to give the importer opportunity to present evidence respecting the fitness of the goods covered by the invoice for entry, the results of the analyses will be communicated to him at his request. Such communication of results will in all cases be made directly from the Department of Agriculture at Washington.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Prohibition of Importation of Goods bearing Fraudulent Marks.

The United States Treasury Department have recently issued a Circular to their Customs Authorities directing attention to the following provisions of an Act (which came into force on the 1st April) prohibiting the importation into the States of articles bearing names or marks calculated to deceive the public as to the real origin of the goods :—

"No article of imported merchandise which shall copy or "simulate the name of any domestic manufacture, or manufacturer "or trader, or of any manufacturer or trader located in any foreign "country which by treaty, convention, or law affords similar "privileges to citizens of the United States, or which shall copy "or simulate a trade mark registered in accordance with the pro-"visions of this Act, or shall bear a name or mark calculated to "induce the public to believe that the article is manufactured in "the United States, or that it is manufactured in any foreign "country or locality other than the country or locality in which "it is in fact manufactured, shall be admitted to entry at any "custom-house of the United States; and, in order to aid the "officers of the customs in enforcing this prohibition, any domestic "manufacturer or trader, and any foreign manufacturer or trader, "who is entitled under the provisions of a treaty, convention, "declaration, or agreement between the United States and any "foreign country to the advantages afforded by law to citizens of "the United States in respect to trade-marks and commercial "names, may require his name and residence, and the name of the "locality in which his goods are manufactured, and a copy of the "certificate of registration of his trade-mark, issued in accordance "with the provisions of this Act, to be recorded in books which "shall be kept for this purpose in the Department of the Treasury, "under such regulations as the Secretary of the Treasury shall "prescribe, and may furnish to the Department facsimiles of his "name, the name of the locality in which his goods are manu-"factured, or of his registered trade-mark; and thereupon the "Secretary of the Treasury shall cause one or more copies of the "same to be transmitted to each collector or other proper officer of "customs."

The provisions of this section give to manufacturers and traders located in foreign countries, which, by treaty stipulations, give similar privileges to the United States, the same advantages as are given to domestic manufacturers and traders. The Act does not affect names or trade-marks heretofore recorded in the Treasury Department, and as to them the protection granted so far as concerns prohibition of importation will continue.

Manufacturers and traders, to avail themselves of the privileges of the Act, so far as concerns trade-marks, are required to register

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

their trade-marks with the Commissioner of Patents. Applications for recording the names and trade-marks in this Department must state the name of the owner, his residence, and the locality in which his goods are manufactured, and in the case of trade-marks should be accompanied by a certified copy of the certificate of registration of his trade-mark, issued in accordance with the provisions of the Act, and the names of the port to which facsimiles should be sent. On the receipt by a customs officer of any such facsimiles, with information from the Department that they have been recorded therein, he will properly record and file them, and will exercise care to prevent the entry at the custom-house of any article of foreign manufacture copying or simulating such mark. A sufficient number of facsimiles should be forwarded to enable the Department to send one copy to each port named in the application, with ten additional copies for the files of the Department. No fees are charged for recording trade-marks in the Treasury Department and custom-houses.

Special attention is invited to the provision prohibiting the entry of articles "which shall bear a name or mark calculated to induce the public to believe that the article is manufactured in the United States, or that it is manufactured in any foreign country or locality other than the country or locality in which it is in fact manufactured," and collectors and other officers of the Customs are instructed to use due diligence to prevent violations of this provision.

The provisions of the Act also apply to Porto Rico, the Philippine Islands, Hawaii, and any other territory under the jurisdiction and control of the United States.

CUBA.

The Cuban "Gaceta Oficial" for the 16th February contains the text of regulations affecting the duties of the Board of Appeals attached to the Customs Department.

Board of Appeals against Decisions of Collectors of Customs.

Protests are only admissible, in general, against decisions of Customs officers, and not against decisions of the Revision Bureau of the Customs Department or of the Auditor-General's Department. Customs officers are, however, authorised to receive appeals against decisions of the latter kind, and to forward them to the Department for consideration; but not later than five days after the publication of such a decision. When a decision has been confirmed, appeal can only be made through the judicial channel (*contencioso administrativo*).

Protests must be made in Spanish.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

CUBA—*continued.*

Persons who dispute the correctness of a chemical analysis made by the Customs must furnish a contradictory analysis duly certified by the proper authority. A third analysis is then made on the result of which the case is decided.

Tariff Classification of Cotton Tissues known as "Splits."

A decision of the Cuban authorities affecting the tariff classification of cotton tissues known as "splits" was published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 2nd February last to the following effect:—

"*Width of Cotton Tissues.*—'*Splits.*'—Cotton "tissues cut into strips of 65 centimetres or "less are not entitled to the benefit of the provision in No. 114 of "the Tariff for 'Tissues . . . *measuring not over* 65 *centi-*"'*metres in width*, and weighing 8 kilogs. or more per 100 square "'metres.' Duty is to be levied on such tissues according to the "general rules for the classification of tissues, under No. 114 or "115 of the Tariff, without regard to the special provision "referred to.

"*Note.*—The above decision is applicable to cut tissues only, "and not to those called 'splits' which are manufactured of a "definite width."

With reference to this notice the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Circular which appeared in the Cuban "Gaceta Oficial' for the 14th March, assimilating "splits" to cut tissues for tariff purposes, on the ground that "splits" have not the full width of manufacture, and are consequently without two completely perfect or finished edges.

From the date on which this circular comes into force, therefore —90 days after publication in the "Gaceta Oficial"—cotton "splits" 65 centimetres or less in width will *not* be entitled to benefit under the provision in No. 114 of the Tariff for "tissues measuring not over 65 centimetres in width and weighing 8 kilogs. or more per 100 square metres," and duty will consequently be levied on such "splits" according to the general rules governing the classification of tissues without regard to this special provision.

CHILE—BOLIVIA.

Treaty between the above Countries.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that a Treaty of Friendship and Commerce between Chile and Bolivia has been signed, and approved by the Legislatures of both countries. The ratifications of this treaty will shortly be exchanged.

As regards foreign trade, the chief points of interest in the new

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treaty are that Chile concedes to Bolivia in perpetuity full and free right of trade-transit through the territory previously ceded to Chile by Bolivia on the Pacific Coast. Bolivia is to have the right to establish Custom houses in the ports she may select for that purpose, the present ports being Antofagasta and Arica. Chilean and Bolivian goods imported into the territories of the other contracting party, or carried over its State railways, are to be reciprocally subject to most-favoured-nation treatment as regards duties or railway rates, pending the conclusion of a special Treaty.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Importation of Forage Plant Seeds.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of an Argentine Presidential Decree prohibiting the importation of seeds of alfalfa (lucerne), and other forage plants containing more than fifty grains of dodder to the kilogramme.

Requests to be permitted to import seeds of forage plants must be accompanied by a certificate from a competent scientific authority in the country of origin, legalised by the proper Argentine Consulate, to the effect that the seed is free from dodder or does not contain more than the allowed proportion thereof.

COLOMBIA.

New Customs Tariff.—*Continued from p.* 166 *of last week's* "*Board of Trade Journal.*"

[NOTE.—All the duties given below, with the exceptions mentioned in Article V, require to be increased by the surtax of 70 per cent.]

	Per kilog. Dols.	Gold.
Perfumery and Soap.		
Florida, Divina, and Kananga waters	0	15
All other articles of perfumery and for toilet, such as essences, soaps, creams, razor-strops, tooth and clothes brushes, &c., not specially mentioned	1	50
Common oil soap	0	10
Common resin and tallow soap	0	03
Paper and Cardboard.		
Periodicals, pamphlets and other printed matter	Free.	
Paper—		
White, not sized, and coloured, for printing	0	03
Brown paper, and all other common paper for wrapping and packing	0	03
Sand paper	0	03
Cigarette paper	0	03
Writing paper, envelopes, and all other paper not specially mentioned; stationery not specially mentioned	0	10
Tissue paper (*papel florete*)	0	05
Music paper, ruled	0	15
Blank books, ruled or not, and note-books	0	20
Books, printed	0	05

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COLOMBIA—*continued.*

	Per kilog. Dols. Gold.
Paper—*continued*—	
Pictures, maps, and engravings of all kinds, and music in manuscript or printed ...	0 20
Paper, entirely gilt or silvered ...	0 20
Wall paper, and paper marbled or stained for bookbinding and other purposes ...	0 10
Cardboard—	
For printing, bookbinding, lithography, and other industrial uses ...	0 03
In other articles, with the exception of playing cards ...	0 10
Playing cards ...	1 50
Wood.	
Building woods, such as poles, beams, pieces of wood for railway sleepers, joists and boards, neither planed nor finished ...	Free.
Common woods, planed, and cabinetmaker's woods, planed or not, unmanufactured, with the exception of veneers ...	0 01
Veneers ...	0 10
Mouldings, carvings, and ornaments for furniture; and frames, gilt or not	0 15
Furniture—	
Bedsteads, large dining tables, wardrobes and large chests of drawers for clothes or other uses, without mirrors, carvings, or inlaid work	0 03
Of all kinds, with mirrors, carvings, inlaid work, or upholstered with woollen or silk tissues ...	0 15
Not specially mentioned ...	0 10
NOTE.—Amongst furniture, whatever be its quality, are not included mattresses, cushions, &c.; when these articles are imported separately, they shall be dutiable according to the stuff covering the same.	
Statues, images, and altars for churches ...	0 10
Musical instruments—	
Organs and pianos ...	0 05
Harmoniums, barrel-organs, and harps ...	0 10
Other...	0 60
Pencils, for writing and for carpenters ...	0 10
Moulds and rules (for mechanical purposes) ...	0 10
Bellows for forges ...	0 03
„ other ...	0 10
Saddle-trees, uncovered...	0 10
Buckets and tubs ...	0 03
Barrels, pipes, and casks, put together or not, for dry goods or liquids ...	0 02
Taps for barrels or casks ...	0 03
Common wooden boxes, roughly made, put together or not, for packing..	0 02
Small boards for match-boxes and wood for matches... ...	0 03
Vehicles—	
Carriages and trucks for railways ...	Free.
Carts and trucks for the transport of goods and other similar uses...	0 02
Coaches and carriages of all kinds ...	0 03
Velocipedes ...	0 20
Ships and boats, complete or in pieces, intended for the navigation of the inland waters of the Republic ...	0 01
Oars ...	0 03
Houses, in pieces...	Free.
Windows, doors, &c., imported separately ...	0 03
Machinery—	
Marine engines; mechanical, industrial, mining, and agricultural machines ...	0 03
Walking sticks, without swords ...	0 60
Manufactures of wood not specially mentioned ...	0 20

(*To be continued.*)

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

RUSSIA.

Progress of doubling the Warsaw-St. Petersburg Railway.

H.M. Consul-General at Warsaw (Mr. A. Murray) reports, in a recent despatch to the Foreign Office, that a second line on the section Warsaw-Tluszcz of the Warsaw-St. Petersburg railway, a distance of 21 miles, which was constructed last year, was opened to traffic on the 14th April. The only section of this line which now remains single is that from Tluszcz to Malkin, a distance of 31 miles. A second line is however being laid down on this section, and will be completed by the autumn of this year.

RUSSIA—SIBERIA.

Export Traffic in Siberian Butter.

Referring to the rumoured difficulties in the forthcoming carriage of Siberian butter to Baltic ports, the British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) forwards an extract from the "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" giving the conclusions of a Commission appointed to enquire into the subject. It appears that the full existing stock of ice trucks (with the exception of 70 trucks in all, diverted to military uses) will, as before, be devoted to the exclusive carriage of butter. They will not be run in special express trains but in ordinary goods trains, and the maximum number of butter trains per week cannot exceed seven, in place of the nine run last year. Consequently the maximum quantity of butter that can be despatched cannot exceed 350,000 pouds. June and July being the months of greatest export activity, part of the butter despatched will have to be sent in August and September. So as to better regulate despatches, Siberian exporters will be duly warned, and British importers will likewise be made acquainted with the changed conditions.

Poud = 36 lbs.

GERMANY.

New Prussian Canal System.

Referring to the notice on pp. 216-7 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 4th August, 1904, a despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Commercial Attaché at Berlin (Mr. W. S. H. Gastrell) enclosing a copy of the new law concerning the building of canals in Prussia and the improvement of its existing waterways.

The total cost of the scheme is 16,728,750*l.*, of which 12,537,500*l.* fall to the cost of building the canal from the Rhine to the Weser, including the canalisation of the Lippe and various accessory works. A sum of 2,150,000*l.* is granted for the making of a canal for large vessels from Berlin to Stettin; 1,058,750*l.* goes to improv-

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ing the waterway between the Oder and Vistula and to better a portion of the Warthe; and 982,500*l.* is allowed for the canalisation of part of the Oder, subject to the agreement of certain local public bodies to contribute in respect of interest and loss on working expenses. On the Rhine-Weser Canal and branches a uniform towing system is to be worked by the State.

A copy of the Law (in German) may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

FRENCH CONGO.

Proposed Railway between Libreville and the River Congo.

The "Dépêche Coloniale" of 28th April states that the French Colonial Minister has appointed a committee of engineers who will sail from Bordeaux on 15th May, to carry out surveys for the construction of a railway to connect Libreville with the river Congo. The length of the proposed line is estimated at about 750 kilometres.

SPAIN.

Additional Port Opened to Trade.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 26th April contains a Decree habilitating the Port of Bonanza, in the province of Cadiz, for the importation of fresh fish, chemical and mineral manures.

ITALY.

State Administration of Railways.

The Italian "Gazzetta Ufficiale" of 22nd April contains a Law authorising the State to administer the following railways from 1st July, 1905:—

(*a*) The lines belonging to the State which form part of the Mediterranean, Adriatic and Sicilian railways.

(*b*) The Domodossola-Iselle, Domodossola-Arona, and Santhià-Borgomanero-Arona railways.

(*c*) The Alessandria-Piacenza, Novi-Tortona, Vigevano-Milan, Turin-Pinerolo, Pinerolo-Torrepellice, Acqui-Alessandria, Mortara-Vigevano, Chivasso-Ivrea, Torreberetti-Pavia, Pontegalera-Fuimicino, Voghera-Pavia-Brescia, Cremona-Mantua, Mantua-Modena, Palazzolo-Paratico and Monza-Calolzio railways.

(*d*) The Lecco-Colico railway.

(*e*) The Naples-Eboli railway.

The State is further authorised to enter into negotiations for the administration of the Torre Annunziata-Castellamare railway, the Rome-Viterbo railway, with its branch lines, and the Varese-

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Shipping and Transport.

Porto Ceresio, Brescia-Iseo, Ascoli-Sambenedetto del Tronto, Teramo-Giulanova, Foggia-Lucera, Foggia-Manfredonia, and Zollina-Gallipoli railways.

The new materials, for the purchase of which provision is made in the Law, are to be acquired from native manufacturers.

Existing tariffs and conditions of transport are to be provisionally maintained.

The "Gazzetta" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

New Railway Rates on Iron and Steel.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Chicago (Mr. Alexander Finn), reporting that new railway rates came into effect on 1st April for the following commodities in car load lots from Chicago to New York, Philadelphia, and Baltimore:—

—			New York.	Philadelphia.	Baltimore.
			Per ton 2,240 lbs.	Per ton 2,240 lbs.	Per ton 2,240 lbs.
Rails, new, iron and steel, min. weight, 20 gross tons		Dols.	3·15	2·75	2·75
Pig-iron, min. weight 20 tons		„	3·10	2·70	2·50
Billets unfinished... ...	Min. weight 20 tons.	„	3·30	2·90	2·70
Blooms, unfinished... ...					
Crop ends					
Ingots					
Muck or puddle bars ...					
Slabs, unfinished					
			Per ton 2,000 lbs.	Per ton 2,000 lbs.	Per ton 2,000 lbs.
Ingot moulds ...	Min. weight 20 tons.	„	3·30	2·90	2·70
Pig moulds					

MEXICO.

Railway Statistics, 1904-05.

According to statistics given in the Presidential Address to Congress, published in the "Diario Oficial" of Mexico of 1st April, 134 kilometres of railway were opened to traffic during the year ended 31st March, 1905. The total length of railways in the country now amounts to 17,630 kilometres.

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Shipping and Transport.

CHILE—BOLIVIA.

Railway to connect the Port of Arica with La Paz.

See p. 201 for a notice regarding the new commercial treaty between Chile and Bolivia, an important stipulation being that Chile undertakes, within one year from its ratification, to contract for the construction of a railway to connect the Port of Arica with La Paz, the capital of Bolivia.

CHINA.

Railway and River Communications in Shantung.

Referring to the notice on p. 599 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 30th June, 1904, respecting the connection of Chinan Fu, the capital of Shantung, with the sea, a communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from H.M. Consul at Chefoo (Mr. P. E. O'Brien Butler) to the effect that during last autumn two tugs were put on the Hsiaohsing River, and, by means of a pony tramway, the connection was made between Tangchiaokou and Chinan.

Mr. Butler adds that a railway is now being constructed by the Shantung Railway Company, which will run in the same district as the existing tramway, and will probably supplant it. It is nominally a Chinese enterprise, and 20,000 taels have been subscribed by native shareholders.

Progress of the Canton-Hankow and Fatshan Samshui Railways.

In his report for 1904, H.M. Consul-General at Canton (Mr. Jas. Scott) states, with reference to railway matters, that in 1902 the American Syndicate which had secured the concession of the Canton-Hankow Railway began operations to the west of the city of Canton on the construction of the main line. Work went on slowly, for the efforts of the syndicate were directed to the completion of a branch line to Fatshan and Samshui, where the prospects of a local remunerative traffic were especially promising. This Fatshan line was finished and opened to traffic in November, 1903, and in 1904 the continuation to Samshui was completed, and trains are now running daily. The receipts from the passenger trade on this branch line have surpassed all expectations—especially on the Canton-Fatshan section—and amount to over 200 dols. a day. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,344.)

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MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—QUEENSLAND.

Mineral Production in 1904.

The following table, extracted from the "Queensland Government Mining Journal," shows the quantity and value of minerals produced in the State of Queensland during the year 1904, with corresponding figures for the preceding year:—

	1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Gold ... ... Ozs.	668,546	2,839,810	639,151	2,714,934
Silver ... ... ,,	642,125	65,538	654,929	71,858
Opal	—	7,300	—	3.550
Gems	—	7,000	—	10,575
Tin ... ... Tons	3,709	243,149	3,923	270,276
Lead ... ... ,,	3,795	43,639	2,046	24,560
Coal ... ... ,,	507,801	164,798	566,831	166,557
Copper ... ... ,,	4,916	285,122	4,370	257,896
Wolfram ... ... ,,	197	7,870	1,539	161,635
Manganese ... ... ,,	1,320	5,332	830	3,540
Bismuth ... ... ,,	11	2,523	20	3,581
Bismuth and Wolfram ... ,,	24	2,100	11 cwts.	73
Molybdenite ... ... ,,			21	2,673
Lime ... ... ,,	13,612	8 060	18,773	10,820
Ironstone ... ... ,,	9,808	3,852	4,424	1,659
Scheelite ... ... ,,	—	—	1	75
Total value	—	846,283	—	989,328

TRINIDAD.

Petroleum.

A communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from the Collector of Customs, Port of Spain, enclosing a copy of a report by the Government geologist on the Mayaro-Guayaguayare oilfield in Trinidad.

It is stated in a prefatory note that during the continuation of geological surveys in other districts, a great quantity of additional information about the prospects of oil production in Trinidad has been collected. Development work has also proceeded in the Mayaro-Guayaguayare oilfield.

The report may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

MEXICO.

Mining Industry.

The following table, extracted from the recent report of Mr. Biorklund, Clerk to H.M. Legation at Mexico City, gives the reported value of the production from the gold and silver mines of Mexico, as supplied by the Finance Department:—

Year.	Gold.	Silver.
	Dollars.	Dollars.
1901	9,505,168	70,350,346
1902	10,818.384	76,770,425
1903	10,351,271	89,364,383

Mr. Biorklund adds that besides silver and gold, which form the two principal branches of the mining industry in Mexico, the exports include antimony and iron, and the returns of the titles for mining properties show that they have been issued for the development and extraction of the following minerals:—Antimony, sulphur, bismuth, tin, iron, manganese, mercury, nickel and zinc, as well as rock salt; and also for the extraction of opals, turquoises, garnets, and tourmalines. In the same manner that the latter are now being found in many parts of the country, it is quite possible that time will discover the existence of other precious stones, some of which, like the emerald, were known to the ancient Aztecs, but so far no one has found the locality where they were found. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,332.)

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Gold Dredging.

H.M. Consul at Buenos Ayres (Mr. A. C. Ross, C.B.) states, in his recent report to the Foreign Office, that various gold dredging companies have been floated to carry on this industry in the Argentine Republic and in Bolivia just across the frontier. Preliminary borings and tests that have been made show that there are very good prospects, but, as none of the companies referred to has had a dredger at work (one has been running a dredger in Brazil with some success), it is impossible to say with certainty what may be the result. The difficulties of transport have proved very serious. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,347.)

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 29th April, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.*	9*d.*
Barley	24*s.*	4*d.*
Oats	17*s.*	9*d.*

For further particulars see p. 228.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Statements are published on pp. 229-30, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the weeks ended the 22nd and 29th April, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding weeks of 1904.

NEW ZEALAND.

Agricultural Estimates, 1904-5.

The "New Zealand Gazette" gives the following particulars of the area in New Zealand of wheat, oats and barley for threshing, and the estimated yields of same for 1904-5:—

—	Area.	Estimated Yield per Acre.	Total Estimated Yield.
	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Wheat	258,015	27	6,966,405
Oats	342,189	32	10,950,048
Barley	29,484	30	884,520

It was estimated that the wheat on hand in excess of requirements on 1st March, 1905 (not including the season's crop) would be 1,112,583 bushels.

BRITISH WEST INDIES—ST. VINCENT.

Cotton Industry.

The report on St. Vincent for the year 1903-04, recently issued by the Colonial Office, states that 136 bales of excellent cotton, realising from 4*d.* (this figure is for the Upland quality) to 1*s.* 3½*d.* per lb., have been shipped from the Colony since April, 1904, and the present area in cultivation, from which the crop is being taken off at the time of writing*, is approximately 1,471 acres. With these prices, which moreover leave a fair margin for a fall, the industry should certainly pay.

* Report dated 31st January, 1905.

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Agriculture.

BRITISH WEST INDIES—ST. VINCENT—*continued.*

Cotton Ginning Factory.

During the year a cotton ginning factory of the most modern approved pattern, planned by the Imperial Commissioner of Agriculture after a personal inspection of many cotton estates in the Southern States of America, which he visited specially in connection with the desired revival of the cotton industry in the West Indies, was erected and equipped with six single action Macarthy gins supplied by three different firms. These gins effectively dealt with the first experimental crop of Sea Island cotton.

The cost of the factory, erected with the object of assisting to raise the fallen fortunes of the Island, and so improve the condition of its people, was defrayed from the Soufrière Eruption Fund.

FRANCE.

Wheat production in Calais District.

In his report for 1904, H.M. Consul at Calais (Mr. C. A. Payton) states that, according to a high authority, the area sown in wheat for 1904, was for the Department of the Nord, 296,360 acres; Pas-de-Calais, 333,600 acres; and Somme, 274,970 acres.

The production of wheat for the year is estimated at 2,320,386 cwts. for the Nord, 2,603,478 cwts. for the Pas-de-Calais and 2,057,436 cwts. for the Somme.

Sowings for 1905 are reckoned at 297,750 acres for the Nord, 338,530 acres for the Pas-de-Calais and 303,890 acres for the Somme. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series,* 3,346.)

CHINA.

Canton Tea Trade.

H.M. Consul-General at Canton (Mr. James Scott) states in his report for 1904, that tea has ceased to hold a place in Canton trade—some 25,000 piculs of all sorts cover the export. Much that has gone to Australia and the United Kingdom has been of low quality, and in some instances admission was refused by the Custom-house authorities in London. The tea season of 1904 has closed with heavy losses both to native and foreign merchants, and all accounts agree in pronouncing the Canton tea trade "dead." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series,* 3,344.)

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MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 27th April, 1905, was 86,729 (including 17 bales British West Indian and 87 bales British West African), and the number imported during the 17 weeks ended the 27th April was 1,480,924 (including 1,343 bales British West Indian and 814 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 27th April, 1905, 1,725 bales, and for the 17 weeks, 164,489 (including 16 bales British West African).

For further details see p. 228.

Forthcoming Meeting of the Association of Trade Protection Societies of the United Kingdom.

The fifty-seventh annual meeting of the Association of Trade Protection Societies of the United Kingdom will be held at the Trocadero Restaurant, Piccadilly Circus, W., on Wednesday, 10th May, 1905. The chair will be taken at 10.30 o'clock precisely by the President, Mr. G. M. Chamberlain. Motions will be proposed on the following subjects:—New County Court Rules; County Court Reform; County Courts; County Courts (Ireland); Execution of Decrees; Inferior Courts Judgments Extension; Deeds of Arrangement Act; Deeds of Arrangement; Assignments of Book Debts; Bankruptcy; Administration Orders; Fraudulent Debtors; Debentures; Trade Marks; Patent Law; Telephones; Ministry of Commerce and Industry; Income Tax and Co-operative Societies; Co-operative Societies; Commercial Travellers in British Colonies; Commercial Travellers Abroad; Canals; Registration of Firms; House Letting Bill; Private Bill Legislation (Ireland); Leasehold Enfranchisement Bill and Leaseholders (Purchase of Fee Simple) Bill; Camp Trading; Weights and Measures; Fire Insurance; Commercial Law Reform; Bankruptcy Extradition; Bills of Exchange; Metric Weights and Measures; Railway Rates; Rating of Machinery; Sale of Butter Bill.

NEW ZEALAND.

Results of Stores Contracts.

The "New Zealand Gazette" for the 16th February contains particulars of the results of stores contracts, 1905-8, with names of successful tenderers and prices of the various articles contracted for, including ironmongery of all kinds, explosives, chemicals and drugs, oils, colours, &c., india rubber goods, iron and steel, leather, &c., at Auckland, Wellington, Addington, and Hillside.

The "Gazette" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Miscellaneous.

RUSSIA.

Chemical Industry in 1904.

The official "Viestnik Finansoff" of 6th/19th March publishes a lengthy review of the Moscow chemical industry and trade in 1904, a summary of which has been received from the British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke). According to this summary, the position of the chemical industry in Russia is in general difficult enough. The majority of Russian chemical works turn out one and the same product, the consequences of which appear in the form of over-production, and low, even ruinous prices. Of late years Russian chemical manufacturers have repeatedly attempted to come to some agreement under separate heads, following the example of foreign syndicates and trusts, proposing as the aim in view not to raise prices that have fallen, but only to keep them from further decline. But even this modest scope has not always been attainable. Over-production, and the impossibility of disposing of piled-up superfluous stocks at length forced first one and then another of the participators to withdraw from the agreement, even though this at once led to a further ruinous fall of prices.

Last year was a particularly bad year in this respect. External competitors of the Moscow works, in consequence of decreased sales in their regions (partly under the undoubted influence of the war), rushed with special force on Moscow, reducing the already extremely low prices.

Trade *viâ* European Frontiers in 1904.

With reference to the figures of the trade of Russia given on p. 104 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th April, the Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, summaries of the official statistics of the trade of Russia by European Frontiers in 1904, with comparative figures for the preceding year, from which the following table has been taken:—

—	Imports.		Exports.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
	Roubles.	Roubles.	Roubles.	Roubles.
Articles of food	87,400,000	92,600,000	595,500,000	614,900,000
Raw and semi-worked materials	342,800,000	332,800,000	312,600,000	300,800,000
Animals and livestock ...	1,600,000	1,500,000	20,200,000	16,100,000
Manufactured goods ...	170,800,000	156,700,000	21,400,000	23,200,000
Total	602,600,000	583,600,000	949,700,000	955,000,000

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Miscellaneous.

ITALY—SOMALILAND.

Convention for Commercial and Industrial Development.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Ambassador at Rome (Sir E. H. Egerton, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.), transmitting copy and translation of a new Convention between the Italian Government and the Commercial Society, Limited, of the Benadir. The previous Convention (of 1898) between the Italian Government and the Society is thereby dissolved.

Under the new convention the Government will grant to the society an annual subsidy of 2,400*l.* (lire 60,000) for the working of a monthly postal service between Aden, Benadir, and Zanzibar during the North-east monsoon by means of two steamships (from 500 to 600 tons), the service to be inaugurated within 18 months.

Certain public works, to cost not more than six million lire (240,000*l.*), and to be completed within 10 years, are provided for under the convention, the same to include:—A pier and jetty at Mogadiscio; a bridge at Merca; harbour works at Brava; and a road, to be eventually converted into a narrow gauge railway, between Brava and Goscia; and the repairing of the Vebi Gof or the opening of another irrigation canal.

With the object of facilitating the agricultural undertakings of the Society, the Government concedes land to the right and left of the road and canal before-mentioned, for cultivation preferably under cotton, within a period of ten years.

The working of the forests, mines, and fisheries is also provided for under the Convention.

The document may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

MEXICO.

Increased Utilisation of Water Power.

In the course of the Presidential Address delivered at the opening of the Mexican Congress on the 1st April, published in the "Diario Oficial" of the same date, Señor Diaz remarked on the increasing use in Mexico of water power for agricultural and industrial purposes. He stated that during the twelve months under review, concessions had been granted for the appropriation of 12,224 litres per second from the rivers Ameca, Fuerte, San Lorenzo and Castillo de Vaca, for irrigation; and of 52,150 litres per second from the rivers Angulo, Lerma, San Gerónimo, Atoyac, Nexapa, Conchos and Baluarte.

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Miscellaneous.

MEXICO—*continued.*

Establishment of Exchange and Currency Commission.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico, of 3rd April, contains a Decree establishing an Exchange and Currency Commission, in accordance with the terms of Article 32 of the Law of 25th March (see pp. 38-9 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th January and pp. 130-31 of the "Journal" of 20th April).

Of the nine members of the Commission, two will be so *ex-officio*, viz.:—The General Treasurer of the Federation and the Director-General of the Mints; of the remainder, three are to be nominated by the National Bank of Mexico, the Bank of London and Mexico and the Central Mexican Bank, and four are to be selected by the Secretary of Finance from among persons who have experience or special attainments in banking matters. The seven latter members may be of any nationality.

The following are among the principal functions of the Commission:—to decide as to the striking of coins intended for interior circulation, determining the quantity and kinds of coin that are to be struck; to buy bars of gold, silver, nickel or bronze for coining; to withdraw from circulation worn coins that need to be re-coined, and to send them to the Mint for that purpose; to receive from the Mint all money coined and, when necessary, put it into circulation.

The Commission was to enter on its functions on the 8th April.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

With reference to the previous notice mentioned above, it may be of interest to add that Article 17 of the Law of 25th March provides for the coinage for export only of dollars bearing the die prior to 1898, and provided the coins bear special countermarks.

CHILE.

Commissioner to Report on School and Library Furniture in Europe and the U.S.A.

The "Diario Oficial" of Chile, of 4th March contains a Decree commissioning Don Santos Torres Tornero to make a study of the furniture and materials in use in schools and libraries in Europe and the United States of America, with a view to submitting a report on this subject to the Chilean Minister of Education.

BRAZIL.

Import Trade, 1903.

In a recent despatch to the Foreign Office, the Acting British Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. C. B. Rhind) reports that the Department of Commercial statistics has just published the complete

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Miscellaneous.

returns of Brazilian imports and exports during the year 1903, from which it appears that the value of the total foreign trade of the country during that period amounted to 543,000 contos of reis gold (61,087,500*l.*) or 12,000 contos (1,350,000*l.*) more than in 1902.

Imports amounted to 215,000 contos (24,187,500*l.*) being an increase over 1902 of about 8,000 contos (900,000*l.*). According to the data received up to the present, the value of imports during 1904 amounted to 27,000,000*l.*

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

New Exports.

In his report for 1904, H.M. Consul at Buenos Ayres (Mr. A. C. Ross, C.B.), remarks that there has been an increase of 400 tons in the export of marble and of 300 tons in that of bar copper, both new articles of export, and an increase in gold and silver ore of 2,800 kilogs.

Hog bristles and cow hair (43 tons) are new articles of export, but their destinations are not mentioned in the returns. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,347.)

JAPAN.

Timber Export to North China.

The report of the Yokohama Chamber of Commerce for March states that the Japanese Department of Agriculture and Commerce intend to export timber from the State forests to North China and Korea, through contract exporters. According to Imperial Ordinance No. 32, just issued, contracts for exporting the State timber will only be concluded with those merchants whose annual business tax is not less than 250 yen, or with those companies which have a paid up capital of not less than 50,000, or those merchants abroad who are testified by the Japanese Consul as possessing property worth 50,000 yen or upwards.

This business enterprise is believed to be a promising one. Hitherto, North China and Korea have obtained their timber supplies mainly from the banks of the Yalu. But this source of supply was stopped for military reasons, and the timber now brought to the market from South China and America is quite different from that to be exported from Japan, so that competition is out of the question. In Japan, the demand for timber is amply supplied from private forests and a large surplus remains for export. In view of these circumstances, the Diet recently voted 380,000 yen as expenditure for carrying on this business. According to the authorities, the forests first to be felled for exportation purposes, will be those in Aomori and Akita prefectures and Kishu, Tosa, and Shinshu provinces.

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 17 Weeks ended 27th April, 1905.

—	Week ended 27th April, 1905.	17 Weeks ended 27th April, 1905.	Week ended 27th April, 1905.	17 Weeks ended 27th April, 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	70,592	1,218,842	754	115,182
Brazilian	2,642	18,108	—	328
East Indian	79	18,221	380	5,405
Egyptian	12,338	201,759	551	42,527
Miscellaneous	1,078*	23,994†	40	1,047‡
Total	86,729	1,480,924	1,725	164,489

* Including 17 bales British West Indian and 87 bales British West African.
† Including 1,343 bales British West Indian and 314 bales British West African.
‡ Including 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 29th April, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 29th April, 1905	30	9	24	4	17	9
Corresponding week in—						
1898	42	4	27	8	20	4
1899	25	8	24	5	17	6
1900	25	11	25	3	18	0
1901	26	9	26	4	19	1
1902	29	9	27	5	21	10
1903	26	10	22	1	18	0
1904	27	8	21	1	16	3

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 22nd April, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 22nd April, 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	12,437	*7,432*
Sheep and lambs	"	3,817	*6,640*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	270	*401*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	108,177	*87,602*
Mutton	"	89,066	*35,730*
Pork	"	6,974	*9,235*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	98,144	*93,643*
Beef	"	2,946	*1,324*
Hams	"	27,414	*19,366*
Pork	"	2,303	*6,233*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	17,414	*16,301*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	13,055	*15,724*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	95,352	*95,344*
Margarine	"	21,241	*17,457*
Cheese	"	29,188	*27,472*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	71	*94*
" condensed	"	15,294	*13,670*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	13	*13*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	277,213	*316,625*
Poultry	Value £	28,473	*13,281*
Game	"	1,532	*2,681*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	8,287	*6,031*
Lard	"	45,848	*30,144*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,860,600	*1,331,200*
Wheat meal and flour	"	188,900	*277,100*
Barley	"	110,700	*512,000*
Oats	"	291,700	*193,800*
Peas	"	19,578	*30,100*
Beans	"	6,570	*13,780*
Maize or Indian corn	"	816,700	*862,200*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	48,282	*46,591*
Apricots and peaches	"	1	*1*
Bananas	Bunches.	43,417	*73,699*
Cherries	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	—
Grapes	"	288	*291*
Lemons	"	8,757	*10,174*
Oranges	"	87,765	*187,478*
Pears	"	704	*608*
Plums	"	—	—
Strawberries	"	—	*1*
Unenumerated	"	2,584	*977*
Hay...	Tons.	1,894	*3,163*
Straw	"	2,090	*2,985*
Moss Litter*	"	1,492	—
Hops	Cwts.	1,971	*851*
Locust Beans	"	3,500	*3,100*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	327,156	*90,767*
Potatoes	Cwts.	27,478	*398,163*
Tomatoes	"	19,117	*19,387*
Unenumerated	Value £	14,475	*13,600*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	2,810	*710*
Preserved by canning...	"	6,193	*4,034*

* Not shown in 1904.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom—(*cont.*).

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 29th April, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ended 29th April, 1905.	*Corresponding week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number	8,908	*14,261*
Sheep and lambs	"	2,841	*10,078*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	229	*298*
Fresh meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	97,892	*98,722*
Mutton	"	114,882	*167,873*
Pork	"	8,398	*8,472*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	95,402	*89,804*
Beef	"	4,186	*4,144*
Hams	"	27,760	*17,204*
Pork	"	5,438	*4,661*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	17,435	*14,198*
Meat, preserved, otherwise than by salting...	"	20,108	*17,005*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	74,978	*105,198*
Margarine	"	21,927	*18,691*
Cheese	"	24,848	*29,592*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	88	*108*
" condensed	"	12,805	*12,919*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	4	*116*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	217,181	*349,231*
Poultry	Value £	10,872	*6,654*
Game	"	2,080	*374*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	9,567	*5,109*
Lard	"	35,687	*32,602*
Corn, grain, meal and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,874,200	*1,229,200*
Wheat-meal and flour...	"	262,900	*373,700*
Barley	"	414,500	*312,000*
Oats...	"	294,700	*277,900*
Peas	"	29,000	*44,380*
Beans	"	12,640	*6,270*
Maize or Indian corn	"	809,700	*605,900*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	27,840	*45,424*
Apricots and peaches...	"	2	—
Bananas...	Bunches	169,927	*68,140*
Cherries...	Cwts.	—	—
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	—	*1*
Grapes	"	282	*228*
Lemons	"	28,398	*19,615*
Oranges	"	59,101	*159,506*
Pears	"	288	*271*
Plums	"	—	—
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	200	*1,036*
Hay...	Tons	2,429	*2,943*
Straw	"	2,158	*1,529*
*Moss Litter	"	2,074	—
Hops	Cwts.	1,108	*1,641*
Locust beans	"	9,060	*1,394*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels	159,158	*138,638*
Potatoes...	Cwts.	48,469	*427,922*
Tomatoes	"	25,022	*18,703*
Unenumerated	Value £	12,057	*22,149*
Vegetables, dried...	Cwts.	879	*1,545*
Preserved by canning...	"	11,095	*2,958*

* Not shown in 1904.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of March, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the April issue:—State of the Labour Market in March; Wages in the Cotton Trade; Co-operative Credit Societies; Relief of the Unemployed; Prices of Coal and Iron; and Recent Conciliation and Arbitration Cases.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,349. Trade and Agriculture of the Consular District of Chicago, 1904.

Growth of Chicago as a commercial and industrial centre.

Hints for the increase of British trade.

Progress of agriculture and of trade in agricultural products.

Condition of the iron and steel trade, with statistics of production of Lake Superior iron ore.

Shipbuilding and shipping.

Statement of direct imports into Chicago, 1900–04, showing value from the United Kingdom.

This publication contains also reports from the British Vice-Consuls at St. Louis, Kansas City, Denver, Omaha, St. Paul, and Duluth.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,350. Trade of Iceland, 1901-03.

Official statistics of import and export trade, 1901-2.

Good trade with the United Kingdom in ready-made clothing and hardware.

Account of export trade, salt fish being the most important.

Shipping, harbour dues, &c.

No. 3,351. Trade and Agriculture of Poland and Lithuania, 1904.

General depression, owing to over-production, war and drought.

Effect of the Russo-German commercial treaty.

Few likely openings for British trade until after the war.

Detailed account of agriculture, including prospects for 1905.

Stagnation of the timber trade. Construction of a timber port at Wloclawek.

Advantages of selling agricultural machinery, artificial manures and seeds to and through the Agricultural Societies.

Unfavourable state of textile industry, excepting jute.

Effect of the tariff on the chemical industry.

Intended construction of the Vistula-Nieman-Dvina Canal.

No. 3,352. Trade of Bilbao, 1904.

Efforts to increase trade with South America.

Account of the mineral industry, with statistics of production, export, &c.

Growth of manufacture of chemicals for industrial uses; effect on import trade.

Openings for agricultural machinery and electric power plant.

Competition in the cement trade.

Tables of imports, exports and shipping, indicating the share of principal countries participating.

Proposed alteration of Customs tariff.

This publication contains also reports by the British Vice-Consuls at Santander, San Sebastian and Castro Urdiales.

No. 3,353. Trade of New York, 1904.

Review of import and export trade, with commentary regarding the principal articles showing variations.

Increase in imports of cocoa, tea, and Scotch herrings.

Export of unmanufactured iron and steel more than four times in value that of 1903.

Decreased shipments of boots and shoes to the United Kingdom.

Condition of textile industries.

New lines of steamers.

Returns of principal articles of import and export at New York in 1904, showing increase or decrease as compared with 1903, and the average of the preceding five years.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,354. Trade of Newchwang, 1904.

Review of trade during the past decade. Competition of American and Japanese cottons with British goods.

Likely market for agricultural implements, stoves, sewing machines and iron anchors.

Continued increase in imports in 1904, but decrease in exports.

Japanese yarn displacing the Indian article.

Larger sales of gunny bags, hemp bags, American flour, Japanese matches, American oil and all kinds of sugar.

Growth of railway traffic.

Comparative tables of imports, exports and shipping.

MISCELLANEOUS SERIES.

No. 663. Mineral Wealth of Siena and Grosseto (Italy).

Deposits of iron ore and manganiferous iron ore.

Prospects of developing copper mining in the district around Massa Marittima, and quicksilver mining in the region of Monte Amiata generally.

Growth of manufacture of colours and varnishes in which antimony enters.

Proposed working of lignite and peat deposits.

Prospects in connection with sulphur, boracic acid and marble.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Wines Imported Return. 105. *Price* ½*d.*

This is a return prepared by the Customs Authorities showing the quantity of wines at the various degrees of strength, which were imported into the United Kingdom in 1904 from Spain, Portugal, Madeira, France, Germany, Holland, Italy, Australasia and other countries. It appears that 10,656,837 gallons of wine were imported in casks during 1904, and 1,690,357 gallons in bottles, making a grand total of 12,347,194 gallons. Of this quantity 2,994,376 gallons came from Spain, 2,887,881 from Portugal, and 2,396,299 from France.

Emigration and Immigration. Statistical tables relating to Emigration and Immigration from and into the United Kingdom in 1904, *and Report to the Board of Trade thereon.* 137. *Price* 8*d.*

This return has been prepared in the Commercial, Labour and Statistical Department of the Board of Trade.

The following table gives a summary view of the total passenger movement into and out of the United Kingdom in 1904, the cor-

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Government Publications.

responding figures for 1902 and 1903 being also shown for comparison :—

—	1902.	1903.	1904.
To and from Countries out of Europe—	No.	No.	No.
Outward	386,779	449,006	453,877
Inward...	170,874	199,685	241,896
Balance outward	215,905	249,321	211,981
To and from European Countries—			
Outward	636,311	699,901	718,560
Inward...	773,624	814,441	802,949
Balance inward	137,313	114,540	84,389
Net balance outward	78,592	134,781	127,592

An analysis of the detailed figures given in the return shows a net emigration during the year from the United Kingdom to places out of Europe of 128,638 British and Irish and 83,343 Foreigners.

As to the destination of the passengers, it should be noted that the information which the Board of Trade have statutory power to obtain only shows the places at which the passengers proposed to disembark, and not necessarily their ultimate destination. With this proviso it may be stated that of last year's total of passengers outward to countries out of Europe, 152,169 or 34 per cent. of the gross total went to places within the British Empire, and 301,708 or 66 per cent. went to Foreign Countries, including 291,945 to the United States.

The total of 453,877 passengers outward to countries out of Europe comprised 271,435 of British and Irish, and 174,354 of Foreign origin. Of the former, 119,504 or 44 per cent. went to places within the British Empire.

As regards alien immigration from Europe, the total number of persons entered on the Alien Lists for 1904 was 194,986 (as against 207,191 in 1903 and 200,011 in 1902). Of these, 99,278 were stated on the lists to be *en route* to other countries compared with 124,591 in 1903 and 118,478 in 1902. Many others, however, though not so described are known to have been *en route*.

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Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—	
	Austria-Hungary:	
3343	Finances and General Economic Conditions 1900–04	6½*d.*
3328	Trieste 1904	1½*d.*
	Belgium:	
3327	Antwerp—Shipping ...1904	7½*d.*
3325	Belgium—Finances 1904–05	1*d.*
	Denmark:	
3324	Denmark (Supplementary) 1903	½*d.*
3350	Iceland 1901–03	1*d.*
	France:	
3330	Brest 1904	1½*d.*
3346	Calais ... ... "	2½*d.*
3336	Nantes ... ... "	1*d.*
	German Empire and Colonies:	
3342	Chemnitz and Saxony 1904	1*d.*
3333	Germany ... ... "	3*d.*
624	*Memorandum on German Cement*	½*d.*
630	*Technical Instruction in Germany: Supplementary and Miscellaneous* ...	4*d.*
	Spain:	
3352	Bilbao 1904	2½*d.*
	Italy:	
3320	Italy 1903	1½*d.*
3338	Italy—Finances ...1904	1½*d.*
3323	South Italy ... ... "	1½*d.*
3340	Venice 1903–04	1½*d.*
632	*Silk Trade and Yield of Cocoons in 1904*	1*d.*
633	*Mineral Wealth of the Provinces of Siena and Grosseto*	1*d.*
	Netherlands:	
3331	Amsterdam 1904	1*d.*
	Russia:	
3351	Poland and Lithuania 1904	3*d.*
628	*Cultivation of Tea in the Caucasus*	½*d.*
	Servia:	
3329	Servia 1903	1½*d.*
	AFRICA—	
3321	Somaliland Protectorate... ... 1903–04	3*d.*
3322	Tangier and District ...	1½*d.*
	AMERICA, NORTH—	
	United States of America:	
3326	Baltimore 1904	1½*d.*
3349	Chicago... ... ... "	4*d.*
3353	New York ... ... "	2½*d.*
3348	Texas ... ... "	2*d.*
625	*Rice Industry in the United States*	2*d.*
626	*Iron and Steel Exhibits at the St. Louis Exhibition* ...	2½*d.*
627	*United States Railways* ...	2½*d.*
631	*Coal Industry of the United States, 1903*	2½*d.*
	Mexico:	
3332	Mexico 1903	2½*d.*
	AMERICA, CENTRAL—	
3334	Honduras: Trade and Agriculture ... 1903–4	1*d.*
3337	Nicaragua ... 1903 & 1904	2*d.*
	AMERICA, SOUTH—	
	Argentina:	
3347	Buenos Ayres 1904	1½*d.*
	Chile:	
3345	Coquimbo 1904	½*d.*
	Colombia:	
3339	Santa Marta — Trade and Agriculture ...1904	½*d.*
	ASIA—	
	China:	
3344	Canton 1904	1*d.*
3354	Newchwang ... ... "	1½*d.*
3335	Teng Yueh ... ... "	½*d.*
629	*Cotton Mills of China* ...	2*d.*
	Japan:	
3341	Hakodate 1904	1½*d.*

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Government Publications.

Treaty Series.

The following numbers of the Treaty Series issued since the 1st January, 1905, may also be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

No.	—	Price.
	EUROPE— **France:**	
3	Agreements between the United Kingdom and France referring to Arbitration the question of the Grant of the French flag to Muscat Dhows...	½*d.*
5	Convention between the United Kingdom and France respecting Newfoundland and West and Central Africa ...	1*d.*
6	Declaration between the United Kingdom and France respecting Egypt and Morocco	1½*d.*
7	Declaration between the United Kingdom and France concerning Siam, Madagascar, and the New Hebrides ...	½*d.*
	Norway:	
8	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Norway respecting telegraphic communication between the two countries...	½*d.*
	Russia:	
2	Agreement between the United Kingdom and Russia respecting Joint Stock Companies and other commercial, industrial, and financial associations	½*d.*
	AMERICA, NORTH— **Mexico:**	
4	Convention between the United Kingdom and Mexico respecting Postal Rates upon letters passing between New Zealand and Mexico	½*d.*
	WEST INDIES— **Cuba:**	
1	Accession of Cuba to arrangements respecting false indications of origin on goods and the International Registration of Trade Marks	½*d.*

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1905, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

Annual.

No.	Place.	Price.
—	Cyprus	2½*d.*
444	Basutoland...	3*d.*
445	Leeward Islands	2½*d.*
446	St. Vincent...	2*d*

Miscellaneous.

No.	Place.	Price.
29	Ceylon. Reports on the results of the Mineral Survey in 1903–4	2½*d.*
30	Pitcairn Island. Report by Mr. R. T. Simons	1*d.*

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Among the branches of work now carried on by the Imperial Institute at South Kensington are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which is exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Imperial Institute Bulletin," issued quarterly, contains information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

March, 1905.

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SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

March, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

To Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

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Bellows—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...

Bevelled and Bent Glass—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

PLOWRIGHT BROS., Ltd., Engineers, CHESTERFIELD.

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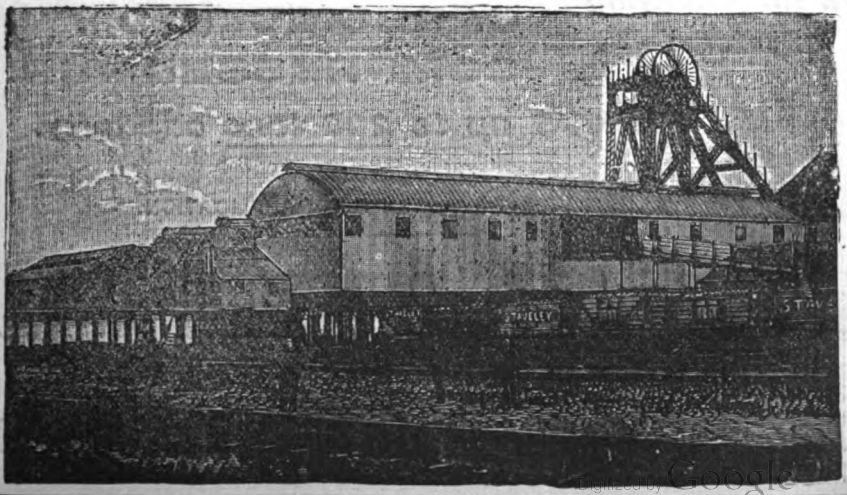

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

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Cardiff Railway Company, Bute Docks, Cardiff.

Chairman, Lord Edmund Talbot, M.P. *Managing Director*, Sir William Thomas Lewis, Bart. *Superintendent*, James Hurman.

AREA, etc.—The present BUTE DOCKS are 111 acres in extent, and vessels loading up to 12,000 tons regularly trade there.

The NEW SOUTH DOCK, which is rapidly approaching completion, will have a water area of 50 acres. It is 2,550 feet in length, 800 feet in breadth, and 50 feet in depth from the coping; and will be capable of accommodating the LARGEST VESSELS AFLOAT. The Sea Lock will be 850 FEET IN LENGTH, and 90 FEET IN BREADTH, with a depth of water over the cill of 42 FEET at ordinary spring tides, and 32 FEET at ordinary neap tides. Two Large Graving Docks, up to 850 FEET IN LENGTH, and entered from THIS DOCK, are about to be constructed.

MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES.—The Bute Docks are equipped with the most IMPROVED Appliances for the discharging and loading of vessels with dispatch; the greater portion being worked by HYDRAULIC PRESSURE. There is an ample equipment of Cranes of various power up to 70 TONS, as well as Grain Elevators, &c., &c.

Special attention may be drawn to the NEW 70-TON CRANE in the ROATH DOCK, thus enabling THE CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY to ship or unship THE HEAVIEST WEIGHTS.

COAL SHIPPING FACILITIES.—Coal is being shipped at these Docks by the ordinary Fixed, as well as Moveable Staiths; as also by the LEWIS-HUNTER PATENT COALING CRANES. The Cardiff Railway Company have the EXCLUSIVE use in the Bristol Channel of the LEWIS-HUNTER Coaling Cranes, which have proved by far the most satisfactory appliances for shipping Welsh Coal, with dispatch and the Least Possible Breakage. Colliery screened coal shipped by these cranes being equal to double screened coal shipped by ordinary Staiths, and thereby ensuring to the purchaser an INCREASED VALUE OF AT LEAST ONE SHILLING per ton over that of coal put on board by shipping appliances at other Docks, besides ensuring great SAVING IN BREAKAGE and uniformity of distribution throughout the cargo of any small coal that might exist; thus minimising any risk of spontaneous ignition from small coal in cargoes bound for distant ports. THREE OR MORE CRANES can be worked simultaneously into one vessel, and as much as 330 TONS have been shipped by one crane in an hour, and 4,773 TONS have been shipped into a vessel in 10 HOURS. Shippers attach so much importance to the advantages of these Cranes that they frequently elect to wait some time for a CRANE BERTH rather than have their coal shipped by the usual staiths.

The NEW SOUTH DOCK will be entirely equipped with these COALING CRANES, in deference to the wishes of so many shippers and buyers of CARDIFF COAL.

WAREHOUSES AND TRANSIT SHEDS.—Good accommodation for the storage of GRAIN, PROVISIONS, &c., &c., BONDED AND FREE.

WHARF SPACE AND YARDS.—Large provision is made for stacking Timber, Deals, Iron Ore, &c. Timber Ponds, 28 ACRES in extent, with COMPETITIVE RAILWAY COMMUNICATION TO ALL PARTS.

FACILITIES FOR SHIP REPAIRS, etc.—There are 10 PRIVATE GRAVING AND FLOATING DOCKS, ranging up to 800 feet in length, with SEPARATE PROPRIETARIES, and one PUBLIC GRAVING DOCK 600 FEET in length. There are also several MARINE ENGINEERING FIRMS, thus giving Shipowners an opportunity of obtaining tenders for repairs of every description.

RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION.—CARDIFF is the NATURAL PORT for BIRMINGHAM and the MIDLAND DISTRICT, as the London & North Western, Midland, and Great Western Railway Companies have direct communication from the Ship's Side.

DOCK CHARGES.—These are much below the average of our Great Ports. Vessels can generally procure an outward cargo to any PORT in the WORLD, thus giving the Bute Docks an advantage for Imports, as vessels do not require to change Ports.

TRADE.—The BUTE DOCKS were opened in the year 1839, and the IMPORTS and EXPORTS in 1902 were as follows:—Imports, 9,817,510 TONS; Exports, 7,684,087 TONS; Total, 9,501,597 TONS.

CATTLE IMPORTATION.—The BUTE DOCKS are the ONLY DOCKS in South Wales which have permission from the BOARD OF TRADE to land FOREIGN CATTLE. Excellent CATTLE LAIRS, SLAUGHTER HOUSES, and CHILL ROOMS are erected adjacent to the Wharf in the deepest-water dock, with Railways leading into them, having communication with all PARTS.

COLD STORAGE.—Ample Accommodation of the most modern description is provided for the storage of dead meat, poultry, provisions, vegetables, &c.

STATUS OF CARDIFF.—CARDIFF now occupies the position of being the FIRST PORT in the UNITED KINGDOM for shipping cleared to FOREIGN COUNTRIES and BRITISH POSSESSIONS and the PREMIER PORT in the WORLD for the SHIPMENT OF COAL.

NOTE.—The Bute Docks are the only Docks situated in the Town of Cardiff. Vessels using the Bute Docks thereby save their owners and Captains from loss of time in making journeys between the Vessels and the Merchants' and Brokers' Offices, Banks, Custom House, Post Office, &c., all of which Offices are adjacent to the Bute Docks.

The fullest information on all matters will be readily granted on application to the

CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY, BUTE DOCKS, CARDIFF.

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

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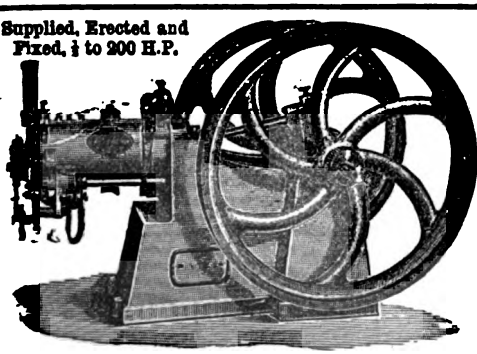

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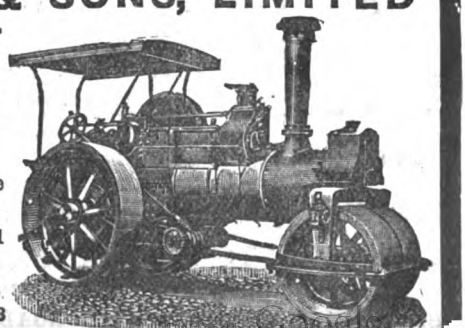

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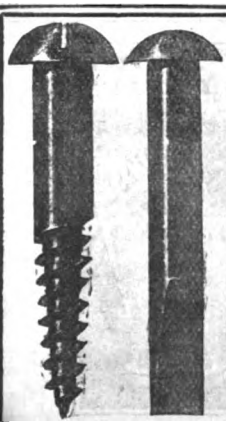

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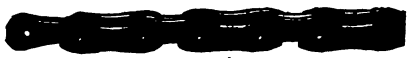

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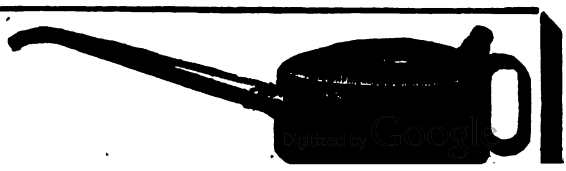

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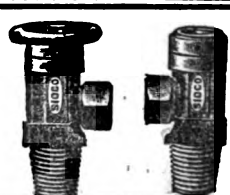

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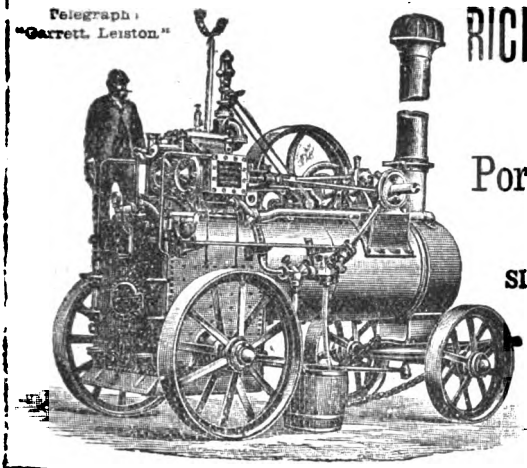

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MAY 22 1905

THE Board of Trade Journal

OFFICES OF COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF BOARD OF TRADE, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

See notice on page 285 within.

HOW TO FIND INFORMATION AS TO

1 & 2. Customs Tariffs	In the United Kingdom.
3. Customs Receipts	
4. Average Prices	
5. Imports and Exports	
6. Growth and Movement of Population ...	
7. Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour ...	
8. Customs Tariffs	In the Colonies and India.
9. Preferential Tariff (Canada)	
10. Imports and Exports	
11. Customs Tariffs	In Foreign Countries.
12. Imports and Exports	

13. Trade between the United Kingdom and Germany.
14. Trade and Population of the United Kingdom, United States, Germany and France, Compared.
15. State of British and Foreign Trade and Industry.
16. Naval Expenditure and Mercantile Marine, &c., of Great Britain and self-governing Colonies, and certain Foreign Countries.

SEE PAGES 283-4 WITHIN.

For Shippers' and Manufacturers' Advertisements, &c. (Index of), see pages ix.-xxiv. of Adverti

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Private Street Works and Works of Sewerage.
Contract No. 2.

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Plans, sections, and conditions of contract can be seen, and specifications, bills of quantities, and forms of tender obtained upon application to Mr. J. C. Haller, C.E., the Engineer and Surveyor to the Council, Surveyor's Office, Carlton, on payment of a deposit of 2 guineas, which will be returned on receipt of a *bona fide* tender, accompanied by the bill of quantities fully priced out.

Contractors will be required to pay not ess than the minimum standard rate of wages for the time being in force within the district.

Sealed tenders, on the prescribed forms, endorsed "Contract No. 2," must be received at my office not later than the 24th day of May next.

Dated this 27th day of April, 1905.

E. LAWRENCE MANNING,
Clerk to the Council.

Public Offices, Carlton, nr. Nottingham.

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CONTRACTS.

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ALDEBURGH.—May 24th.—The making, erecting, setting to work, and maintaining in good order for three months, of two "Hornsby-Ackroyd" cheap fuel oil engines, two "Hayward-Tyler" Universal pattern pumps, with all necessary gearing, shafting, pipes, valves, and other fittings, for the Corporation. Mr. J. C. Gordon, Aldeburgh, or the office of the Engineers, Messrs. J. Mansergh & Sons, 5, Victoria Street, Westminster. (Fee, £2 2s., returnable.)

BLACKBURN.—May 13th.—One Lancashire boiler, for the Town Hall and Baths Committee. Mr. W. Stubbs, Borough and Water Engineer, Municipal Offices.

COVENTRY.—May 15th.—Supply and erection of six purifiers, each 30 ft. by 25 ft. by 6 ft. deep, together with valves and connections for the same for the Gas Committee. Mr. F. W. Stevenson, Engineer and General Manager, Gasworks, Coventry. (Fee, 30s., non-returnable.)

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Drawings may be seen, and copies of specification and quantities may be obtained, on payment of 5 guineas, which will be refunded on receipt of a *bona fide* tender.

Application must be made at the offices of the Engineers, Mr. C. J. Lomax, A.M.I.C.E., 37, Cross Street, Manchester, on 9th day of May, or to Mr. F. Bettany, Borough Engineer, St. John's Chambers, Burslem, on and after the 12th day of May.

Sealed tenders, addressed to me and endorsed "Tenders for Outfall Works," to be delivered not later than the 26th day of May.

The Corporation do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

ARTHUR ELLIS,
Town Clerk.

Burslem.

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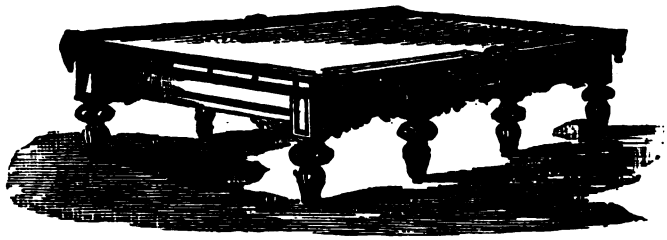

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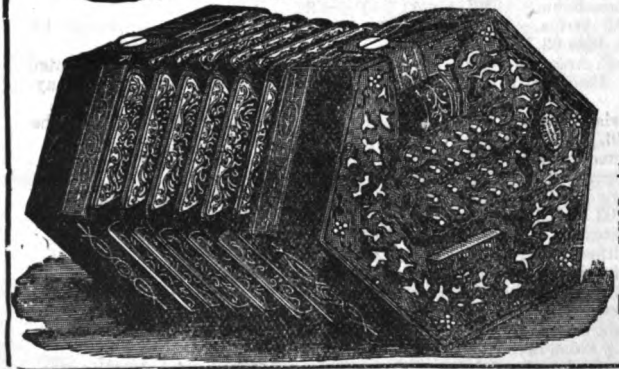

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Board of Trade Journal.

MAY 11TH, 1905.

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLIX.] May 11, 1905. [No. 441

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 285.

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 286.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

Rails and Fishplates.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing to supply—

Rails and fishplates.

The conditions of contract may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.), or may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W. Tenders are to be delivered at the latter office by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, the 16th May, 1905, after which time no tender will be received.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

The South Indian Railway Company, Limited, are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of—

Steel Bridges. (*a*) Steel bridges, 10 to 55 feet spans, about 1,800 tons.

(*b*) Steel bridges, 20 to 40 feet spans, about 83 tons.

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 55, Gracechurch Street, London, E.C.

Tenders, addressed to the Chairman and Directors of the South Indian Railway Company, Limited, marked "Tender for Bridges," must be left with the Managing Director, not later than noon on Tuesday, the 16th May.

The Company are not bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

A charge, which will not be returned, will be made of 20*s.* for each copy of specification (*a*), and of 10*s.* for each copy of (*b*).

Copies of the drawings may be obtained at the office of Sir George B. Bruce, 3, Victoria Street, Westminster, on payment of 5*s.* per sheet.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of—

Steel Rails. Steel bull-headed rails,

as per specification to be seen at the Company's Offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Steel Rails," not later than noon on Wednesday, the 17th May.

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

For each specification, a fee of one guinea is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply

Railway Stores. of the following stores, namely:—Locomotive boilers; points and crossings; shackles, pins and cotters; cable iron; plumbago crucibles; carriage door handles and hinges; indiarubber slabs, sheets, &c.; turpentine; fencing materials; water cranes; platelayers' tools, &c.; zinc sheets and slabs; undressed wagon covers; lead pipes, &c.; fencing wire; expanded brass; mild steel firehole shield plates.

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, E.C., on payment of the fee for the specification, which payment will not be returned.

Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Locomotive Boilers," or, as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 18th May.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

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Openings for British Trade.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—Enquiry is made by a London firm respecting supplies of raspberry and other fruit pulps from Canada.

A salesman with experience of the provision and grocery trades is prepared to represent Canadian exporters on commission or otherwise, if desired.

A north of England firm have asked to be placed in communication with Canadian manufacturers exporting pine doors, &c.

Canadian Enquiries.—A Canadian firm ask to be placed in communication with English manufacturers of all kinds of fire brick.

An enquiry comes from Victoria, British Columbia, for names of first-class firms in Great Britain manufacturing umbrellas and rain-coats.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A company manufacturing carbolised and plain tows, as used in hospitals, are prepared to appoint a Canadian resident agent.

A firm of dealers in coffees, teas and cocoas wish to develop trade in Canada.

Enquiry is made for the addresses of Canadian producers of isinglass.

A firm doing a large business in tallow, greases, pitches, waxes, oils and chemicals wish to be placed in communication with Canadian shippers of these goods.

A correspondent desires the addresses of Canadian shippers of caviare.

Canadian Enquiries.—A manufacturer's agent in Toronto could advantageously represent United Kingdom manufacturers of jute and flax goods.

A Canadian manufacturer of canoes desires to get into communication with United Kingdom importers.

A Montreal firm possessing a connection with builders and contractors are willing to represent United Kingdom manufacturers of builders' supplies, clay products, bricks, terra cotta, tiles, faience, &c.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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Openings for British Trade.

EGYPT.

Pine Sleepers.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by the Administration of the Egyptian State Railways that tenders will be received up to the 25th May for the supply of 100,000 pine sleepers required by the Administration. Specifications may be obtained, price 2*s*. per copy, from Lieut.-Col. J. H. Western, R.E., C.M.G., Queen Anne's Chambers, Broadway, Westminster, S.W.

Tenders by registered letter should be addressed to the Chairman of the Egyptian State Railways, Cairo.

BELGIUM.

Railway Plant.

The "Bulletin Commercial" of 29th April contains a notice issued by the "Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux," inviting tenders, which will be opened on 28th June, for the construction of a railway between Dalhem and Fouron-le-Comte, at the estimated cost of 242,768 frs. (about 9,710*l*.). A deposit of 24,000 frs. (about 960*l*.) is required to qualify any tender. Tenders, in sealed envelopes, should be addressed to the General Manager of the Company at 14, Rue de la Science, Brussels, where specifications, plans, &c., may be inspected after 24th May. A copy of the specifications may be obtained on payment of one franc.

SPAIN.

Agricultural Machinery.

H.M. Consul at Bilbao (Mr. C. G. Wood) reports that dealers and agents in machinery complained of the very slack trade done in 1904. There were no new industries of importance initiated, and the demand was nil. Machinery in general is imported from abroad, but small engines, valves, tools, &c., are chiefly made in the country.

The demand for agricultural machinery continues to increase, farmers becoming convinced of its advantages and buying willingly notwithstanding its greater cost. Agricultural machinery and implements come principally from the United States and France, but winnowers and milling machinery from the United Kingdom. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,352.)

ITALY.

Drainage Scheme for Spezia.

Adverting to the particulars published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 7th July, 1904, p. 11, respecting an international competition for a drainage scheme for Spezia, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by the British

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Vice-Consul at that town (Mr. E. M. de Garston) that complete drawings, levels, &c., of the area to be drained will not be ready until well on in June, and that of course means that they cannot be lithographed and ready for distribution to competitors until some time in July. Mr. de Garston adds, however, that he has been informed by the Chief of the Municipal Technical Office that the available time during which plans may be presented has been extended for a year, viz., to 31st December, 1906, and that in due course competitors will be officially advised of this extension.

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Iron Bridges.

The "Levant Herald" announces that the Turkish Minister of Public Works invites tenders for the supply of three iron bridges of 20 m. span, f.o.b. Smyrna. Persons desirous of tendering should apply to the special commission in session at the Ministry of Public Works, Constantinople, or to the vilayet of Smyrna for plans and conditions. Tenders will be received up to 12th/25th May, 1905, which is the date of the provisional adjudication. The definite adjudication, with rebate of 3 per cent., will take place on the 19th May/1st June following.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

H.M. Consul at Chicago (Mr. Alex. Finn) calls attention to the following openings for trade in his district:—

British-made Articles in demand.

"There is a market here, in competition with the domestic and foreign manufactures, for all or any articles of British manufacture with the exception of such things as are made from raw products supplied by the United States.

"During the past 18 months enquiries have been made at this Consulate for the names of British firms wishing to export the following:—Bristles and fibres for brushmakers, burlaps, perfumery, toilet articles, drugs, china, crockery and earthenware, chocolate, rulers, ships' augers, paper of most kinds, cocoanut oil, felt roofing and building paper, pepper, nutmegs, glassware, electrical and gas glassware, electrical sockets and specialities, imitation antique jewellery and plate, shellac, wax and varnish gums, wooden and wax matches and fusees.

"There is said to be a demand for all these things, and trade in them possible if brought before the public in the manner they are accustomed to.

"When the great number of former British residents, who are now scattered through all parts of this country, is taken into con-

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Openings for British Trade.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

sideration, there is no doubt but that British food articles such as biscuits, pickles, jams and sauces would find a sale among people who have been accustomed to and know them, and are now in a position to purchase them. . . .

China and Earthenware.

"The trade in china and earthenware shows an increase of 10 per cent., and while the cheap qualities of china made in the United States made little advance, the demand for imported china increased, especially for Austro-Hungarian and German.

"The direct imports to Chicago were 11,000*l.* less than in 1903, that being the highest year recorded, and as the direct imports from the United Kingdom showed a decrease of 12,000*l.* it cannot be said to be even holding its place in the market. The increase in value of German china to the United States in two years is about 200,000*l.*

"There is an opening for trade in British china by employing a special agent, especially as trade promises to be good.

Cocoa and Chocolate.

"The imports of prepared chocolate have increased five-fold in two years, being valued in 1904 at over 100,000*l.* The direct imports into Chicago were over 16,000*l.* in value, so it appears as if there would be a good market for British cocoa and chocolate if properly advertised and pushed. . . . .

Salt Fish.

"The total imports of fish into the United States increased by 200,000*l.*, chiefly in canned and fresh fish.

"The imports of herring and mackerel both showed a slight falling-off, but to Chicago the direct imports show a steady increase for four years, the imports of mackerel being much greater than ever before.

"It has been pointed out in several previous reports from this Consulate that the Chicago market can be reached if properly managed.

"About one-fourth of the fish imported into the United States came from the United Kingdom, an increased quantity being from Ireland." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,349.)

JAPAN.

Leather.

The "Bollettino Ufficiale" of the Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce, states that the demand for leather in Japan has shown a remarkable increase since the commencement of the war against Russia. In the opinion of the "Bollettino," this demand

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is likely to augment still more. Formerly the use of leather footwear was very restricted, but foreign service has necessitated its use by the soldiers, who on their return home will probably be loth to abandon it, and will thus diffuse the custom of wearing it amongst their compatriots.

The leather industry of Japan, adds the "Bollettino," is as yet very slightly developed. In Osaka there are about 50 tanneries, mainly of minor importance, employing altogether 1,150 men and 362 women. Most of the hides used are supplied from the abattoirs of Osaka and Kobe; oak bark from Hokkaidoh and Shikoku is employed for tanning, a certain amount of better class tanning materials being imported from the United States of America. The most important leather manufactory in Osaka consumes annually about 58,000 hides, mainly in the manufacture of boots, harness, and military equipment. Osaka also possesses a manufactory of driving belts, founded 20 years ago, and fitted with European machinery; a portion of the raw materials for this industry are imported from Europe, chiefly from Germany. The annual sales of the establishment, which employs 150 hands, amount to about 600,000 yen. There are also 30 manufacturers of leather trunks, portmanteaus, &c., in the city; their annual profits, according to the latest statistics, amounting to 153,000 yen; most of the morocco leather used for this manufacture is imported from Europe.

Yen = 2*s.* 0½*d.*

EXHIBITION.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Exhibition illustrative of British Cotton Cultivation and the Commercial uses of Cotton.

It is intended to open during the present month an exhibition at the Imperial Institute illustrative of British cotton cultivation and the commercial uses of cotton, chiefly with the view to exemplify the importance of the cotton industry to this country. The British Cotton Growing Association will co-operate in the Exhibition and will contribute towards the expenses connected with its arrangement. The exhibition will be held in the North Gallery of the Imperial Institute, and will be opened free to the public; it will be styled "Exhibition illustrating British Cotton Cultivation and the Commercial uses of Cotton, held in conjunction with the British Cotton Growing Association."

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BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Canton.—In his report for 1904, H.M. Consul-General at Canton (Mr. J. Scott) in comparing the figures of 1904 with those of the years previous, writes:—"The purchasing power of silver, so far as the native in the interior is concerned, has not fallen commensurately with the difference in its sterling value. At the treaty ports wages and prices have risen generally, but this is traceable in most instances to local and special causes of supply and demand. But up country in the interior, the dollar to the Chinaman is still the dollar and goes nearly as far as formerly in the open market. The farmer and shopkeeper conduct their transactions in cash, of which on an average some 900 cash go to the dollar. In olden days the rate stood at a little over 1,000 cash. As matters stand, the heavy fall in the sterling value of silver has operated to the benefit of the inland producer and resulted in a large increase in exports." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,344.)

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN APRIL, 1905.*

I.—GENERAL.

The trade returns for April, 1905, when compared with those for the corresponding month of 1904, show a decrease in the value of the **Imports** into the United Kingdom, and in the value of the **Exports** of foreign and Colonial merchandise, but an increase in the value of the **Exports** of British produce.

The value of the **Imports** in April, 1905, was 43,282,826*l.*, a decrease of 1,898,937*l.*, or 4·2 per cent., as compared with April, 1904, whilst the total **Exports** amounted to 30,442,345*l.*, or an increase of 203,141*l.* The **Exports** of British produce alone show an increase of 653,634*l.*, or 2·8 per cent., as compared with April, 1904, whilst there is a decrease of 450,493*l.*, or 6·7 per cent., in the **Exports** of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

II.—IMPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** for April, 1905, as compared with the corresponding month of 1904 and 1903, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

* Reference should be made to the article on "Changes in the Monthly Trade Accounts for 1905," published at pp. 444-6 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th March, for information as to the changes which have been made in these accounts.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in April, 1905.

Imports from Foreign Countries and British Possessions.*

—	Month ended 30th April. 1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	4,653,141	5,147,545	5,283,883	+ 136,338	+ 630,742
B. Meat, including animals for food.	4,441,606	4,043,512	3,960,147	— 83,365	— 481,459
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable	4,469,680	5,046,023	4,525,222	— 520,801	+ 55,542
2. Dutiable	3,112,395	3,769,870	3,554,718	— 215,152	+ 442,323
D. Tobacco	287,404	371,565	306,044	— 65,521	+ 18,640
Total, Class I. ... £	16,964,226	18,378,515	17,630,014	— 748,501	+ 665,788
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel ...	339	100	1,212	+ 1,112	+ 873
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel ...	391,799	396,796	428,169	+ 31,373	+ 36,370
C. Other metallic ores...	476,527	594,875	488,757	— 106,118	+ 12,230
D. Wood and timber	1,593,254	1,110,954	1,252,133	+ 141,179	— 341,121
E. Cotton	4,142,444	3,830,770	3,460,653	— 370,117	— 681,791
F. Wool	2,816,695	3,013,329	2,751,490	— 261,839	— 65,205
G. Other textile materials	921,421	1,166,906	1,210,113	+ 43,207	+ 288,692
H. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums	2,099,368	2,341,304	1,832,490	— 508,814	— 266,878
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	561,169	464,235	506,790	+ 42,555	— 54,379
J. Materials for paper making ...	270,707	212,582	267,181	+ 54,599	— 3,526
K. Miscellaneous	1,777,309	1,758,838	2,041,773	+ 282,935	+ 264,464
Total, Class II. ... £	15,051,032	14,890,689	14,240,761	— 649,928	— 810,271
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	611,835	691,593	684,175	— 7,418	+ 72,340
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	1,762,357	1,817,754	1,485,605	— 332,149	— 276,752
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	404,415	403,043	296,387	— 106,656	— 108,028
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus	2,643	1,281	3,476	+ 2,195	+ 833
E. Machinery	403,942	350,570	465,024	+ 114,454	+ 61,082
F. Ships (new)	1,511	211	3,856	+ 3,645	+ 2,345
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	226,565	194,873	170,886	— 23,987	— 55,679
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	657,057	543,219	606,637	+ 63,418	— 50,420
2. Wool	981,759	863,116	963,481	+ 120,365	+ 1,722
3. Other materials	1,792,375	1,789,862	1,660,868	— 128,994	— 131,507
I. Apparel	191,340	290,101	316,028	+ 25,927	+ 124,688
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	751,221	852,637	817,013	— 35,624	+ 65,792
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves)	978,029	1,020,149	771,295	— 248,854	— 206,734
L. Earthenware and glass	406,953	369,304	323,734	— 45,570	— 83,219
M. Paper...	378,526	398,304	370,574	— 27,730	— 7,952
N. Miscellaneous	2,049,099	2,143,554	2,232,194	+ 88,640	+ 183,095
Total, Class III. ... £	11,599,627	11,729,571	11,191,233	— 538,338	— 408,394
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	187,442	182,988	220,818	+ 37,830	+ 33,376
Total value of Imports £	43,802,327	45,181,763	43,283,826	—1,898,937	— 501,501

*The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

Comparing the values of the imports of articles last month with those of April, 1904, the chief increases and decreases are as shown in the following statement:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in April, 1905.

Increases.

			£
I.	A.	Wheat	403,042
		Oats	118,428
		Rice, excluding rice meal... ...	93,310
	C1.	Bananas	50,983
		Lard	81,971
		Onions...	56,906
II.	D.	Wood and timber, hewn	112,379
		Wood and timber, sawn or split ...	84,850
	G.	Flax, dressed and undressed ...	55,263
		Jute	205,562

			£
II.—*ctd.*	I.	Sheep skins, undressed	52,540
	K.	Caoutchouc... ...	343,872
III.	E.	Machinery, not steam engines or electrical ...	108,200
	H1.	Cotton yarns and fabrics other than manufactured articles...	58,266
	H2.	Woollen stuffs ...	103,659
	N.	Motor cycles and parts thereof ...	91,404

Decreases.

			£
I.	A.	Wheat meal and flour...	191,021
		Barley...	150,631
		Maize	145,416
	B.	Mutton, fresh ...	189,096
	C1.	Butter	151,677
		Cheese...	103,879
		Fish, cured or salted	77,004
		Oranges	93,318
		Pepper...	51,057
		Potatoes	258,896
	C2.	Cocoa, prepared...	59,858
		Coffee	70,469
	D.	Tobacco, unmanufactured... ...	71,823

			£
II.	E.	Cotton, raw... ...	357,852
	F.	Wool, sheep or lambs'	255,541
	G.	Hemp, dressed and undressed ...	175,654
		Silk, raw	69,706
	H.	Cotton seed... ...	205,528
		Tallow & stearine	168,678
III.	B.	Copper regulus and precipitate ...	57,787
		Lead	59,980
		Tin	210,380
	H3.	Jute manufactures...	72,185
		Silk manufactures of all sorts ...	117,338
	J.	Indigo...	51,986
	K.	Leather	250,037

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versâ*, may be noted, viz.:—

			Increase.		Decrease.
I.	B.	Meat preserved otherwise than by salting	£11,828	...	2,835 cwts.
	C1.	Spices other than cinnamon, ginger, and pepper	238,961 lbs.	...	£1,032
	C2.	Coffee	1,248 cwts.	...	£70,469
		Tea	796,858 lbs.	...	£3,744
	D.	Tobacco, manufactured, and snuff	£6,302 ...	...	438,113 lbs.
II.	E.	Cotton, raw	317,875 cwts.	...	£357,852
	F.	Wool, alpaca, vicuna, and llama	4,910 lbs.	...	£1,395
	I.	Furs undressed, other than rabbit and seal skins... ...	51,607 No.	...	£3,842
	K.	Gutta-percha	668 cwts.	...	£3,464
III.	H3.	Silk, thrown, dyed or undyed...	814 lbs.	...	£1,482
	I.	Hats or bonnets of straw ...	£5,893 ...	...	17,354 dozens.
	J.	Dyes—Aniline	£5,058 ...	...	260 cwts.
	K.	Boots and shoes	£2,211 ...	...	603 doz. prs.
	L.	Chinaware or porcelain and earthenware	300 cwts.	...	£10,182
	N.	Furs, dressed, other than rabbit and sealskins	50,215 No.	...	£20,653

III.—EXPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the Exports of British produce for the month of April, 1905, as compared with the corresponding month of 1904 and 1903, and the increase or decrease in each principal category:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in April, 1905.

Exports of British Produce.*

—	Month ended 30th April. 1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	147,926	121,062	222,091	+ 101,029	+ 74,165
B. Meat, including animals for food	35,574	57,064	60,349	+ 3,285	+ 24,775
C. Other food and drink	833,332	899,267	845,293	— 53,974	+ 11,961
D. Tobacco	47,301	56,674	71,323	+ 14,649	+ 24,022
Total, Class I. ... £	1,064,133	1,134,067	1,199,056	+ 64,989	+ 134,923
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke and patent fuel ...	2,059,807	2,200,290	2,036,340	— 163,950	— 23,467
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel ...	41,563	51,323	35,341	— 15,982	— 6,222
C. Other metallic ores...	9,768	16,960	5,963	— 11,017	— 3,805
D. Wood and timber	7,250	3,656	4,607	+ 951	— 2,643
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	57,035	106,229	76,343	— 29,886	+ 19,308
G. Other textile materials	15,458	17,126	10,408	— 6,718	— 5,050
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums...	283,641	268,659	213,923	— 54,736	— 69,718
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	110,786	106,974	129,171	+ 22,197	+ 18,385
J. Materials for paper making ...	34,080	38,689	38,047	— 642	+ 3,967
K. Miscellaneous	131,099	135,862	141,473	+ 5,611	+ 10,374
Total, Class II. ... £	2,750,487	2,945,788	2,691,616	— 254,172	— 58,871
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	2,561,283	2,339,029	2,398,758	+ 59,729	— 162,525
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	566,105	604,192	626,932	+ 22,740	+ 60,827
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	369,264	404,078	400,929	— 3,149	+ 31,665
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus..	920,708	45,429	212,605	+ 167,176	— 708,103
E. Machinery	1,623,042	1,913,603	1,711,958	— 201,645	+ 88,916
F. Ships (new)	355,145	346,734	450,971	+ 104,237	+ 95,826
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	107,911	103,486	80,486	— 23,000	— 27,425
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton...	5,809,917	6,228,670	6,859,119	+ 630,449	+ 1,049,202
2. Wool	1,535,334	1,759,627	1,932,389	+ 172,762	+ 407,055
3. Other materials	866,262	994,815	893,734	— 101,081	+ 27,472
I. Apparel	502,493	375,056	384,448	+ 9,392	— 118,045
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	1,220,665	1,339,284	1,269,802	— 69,482	+ 49,137
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes, and gloves)	372,548	356,282	386,582	+ 30,300	+ 14,034
L. Earthenware and glass	252,863	258,894	229,158	— 29,736	— 23,705
M. Paper...	143,198	156,270	143,602	— 12,668	+ 404
N. Miscellaneous	1,818,832	1,930,995	1,911,923	— 19,072	+ 93,091
Total, Class III. ... £	19,015,570	19,156,444	19,893,396	+ 736,952	+ 877,826
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	306,183	248,535	354,400	+ 105,865	+ 48,217
Total value of Exports of British produce ... £	23,136,373	23,484,834	24,138,468	+ 653,634	+ 1,002,095

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.

	£	£	£	£	£
Total value...	6,589,064	6,754,370	6,303,877	— 450,493	— 285,187

* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in April, 1905.

Comparing the values of the exports of the principal articles of British produce and manufacture in April, 1905, with those of April, 1904, the chief increases and decreases are as follow:—

Increases.

			£
I.	A.	Bran and pollard	72,269
III.	A.	Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ...	59,729
	D.	Telegraph cables and apparatus	167,176
	F.	Ships, new	104,237
	H1.	Cotton piece goods	731,072
	H2.	Woollen tissues	179,972
	N.	Arms, ammunition, and military stores ...	98,627
IV.		Parcel Post	99,748

Decreases.

			£
I.	C.	Beer and ale	56,361
II.	A.	Coal, coke, and patent fuel	163,950
III.	B.	Copper, unwrought and wrought	75,723
	E.	Steam engines	122,889
		Machinery, not steam engines or electrical ...	77,963
	H1.	Cotton manufactures other than yarn and piece-goods	111,903
	H2.	Worsted yarn	52,107
	H3.	Jute piece-goods	69,192

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versâ*, may be noted, viz.:—

			Increase.	Decrease.
I.	B.	Meat	£3,319...	... 132 cwts.
	C.	Sugar, refined and candy ...	£3,676...	... 13,092 „
II.	I.	Skins and furs, undressed ...	£14,629...	... 933,148 No.
III.	C.	Hardware...	4,394 cwts.	... £6,471.
	I.	Hats and bonnets	£6,789...	... 495 dozens.
	J.	Copper, sulphate of	£1,008...	... 220 tons.
		Manure, chemical	2,664 tons	...£39,915.
	N.	Skins and furs, dressed... ...	£22,613...	... 4,169 No.

IV.—TRADE DURING THE FIRST FOUR MONTHS OF 1905.

The following table shows the value of the Imports from foreign countries and British possessions during the four months ended 30th April last, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two previous years:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in April, 1905.

Imports from Foreign Countries and British Possessions.*

—	Four Months ended 30th April. 1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	19,367,451	22,112,420	21,941,368	− 171,052	+ 2,573,917
B. Meat, including animals for food	16,090,356	16,074,757	15,979,234	− 95,523	− 111,122
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable...	18,735,295	20,473,980	18,840,480	− 1,633,500	+ 105,185
2. Dutiable	13,427,960	14,226,058	14,844,728	+ 618,670	+ 1,416,768
D. Tobacco	1,363,384	1,473,853	1,256,343	− 217,510	− 107,041
Total, Class I. ... £	68,984,446	74,361,068	72,862,153	− 1,498,915	+ 3,877,707
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke and patent fuel ...	1,977	1,240	2,493	+ 1,253	+ 516
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel ...	1,690,320	1,459,827	1,691,976	+ 232,149	+ 1,656
C. Other metallic ores...	1,945,333	2,359,526	2,446,466	+ 86,940	+ 501,133
D. Wood and timber	4,214,035	4,139,877	3,640,900	− 498,977	− 573,135
E. Cotton	19,620,278	19,935,415	16,899,362	− 3,036,053	− 2,720,916
F. Wool	11,264,531	10,905,038	13,850,066	+ 2,945,028	+ 2,585,535
G. Other textile materials	4,458,021	5,713,444	5,405,021	− 308,423	+ 947,000
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums	8,018,645	8,827,648	7,386,625	− 1,441,023	− 632,020
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	2,537,024	2,195,205	2,423,213	+ 228,008	− 113,811
J. Materials for paper making ...	965,715	925,805	1,025,000	+ 99,195	+ 59,285
K. Miscellaneous	7,172,029	7,355,736	7,820,014	+ 464,278	+ 647,985
Total Class II. ... £	61,887,908	63,818,761	62,591,136	− 1,227,625	+ 703,228
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	2,676,473	2,653,273	2,656,313	+ 3,040	− 20,160
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	5,973,193	6,667,366	6,700,757	+ 33,391	+ 727,564
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	1,477,534	1,368,713	1,164,086	− 204,627	− 313,448
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus..	25,639	10,527	23,535	+ 13,008	− 2,104
E. Machinery	1,535,841	1,475,164	1,621,454	+ 146,290	+ 85,613
F. Ships (new)	14,810	5,570	4,696	− 874	− 10,114
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	758,102	702,971	616,760	− 86,211	− 141,342
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton...	2,811,711	2,313,187	2,598,426	+ 285,239	− 213,285
2. Wool	4,134,701	3,895,415	4,347,229	+ 451,814	+ 212,528
3. Other materials	7,222,707	6,801,219	6,944,888	+ 143,669	− 277,819
I. Apparel	865,772	1,112,270	1,251,699	+ 139,429	+ 385,927
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	3,052,846	3,109,388	3,241,104	+ 131,716	+ 188,258
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes, and gloves)	3,979,646	3,719,599	3,418,380	− 301,219	− 561,266
L. Earthenware and glass	1,513,832	1,448,500	1,308,585	− 139,915	− 205,247
M. Paper	1,600,041	1,616,516	1,616,250	− 266	+ 16,209
N. Miscellaneous	8,103,735	8,193,457	9,044,184	+ 850,727	+ 940,449
Total, Class III. ... £	45,746,583	45,093,135	46,558,346	+ 1,465,211	+ 811,763
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) ...	766,230	798,596	804,300	+ 5,704	+ 38,070
Total ... ... £	177,385,167	184,071,560	182,815,935	− 1,255,625	+ 5,430,768

* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

The value of the **Exports** of home produce and of foreign and colonial produce during the first four months of 1905, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1904 and 1903 is as shown in the following table:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in April, 1905.

Exports of British Produce.*

—	Four Months ended 30th April. 1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	536,218	510,975	799,715	+ 288,740	+ 263,497
B. Meat, including animals for food.	180,512	201,865	210,773	+ 8,908	+ 30,261
C. Other food and drink	3,518,320	3,627,998	3,665,072	+ 37,074	+ 146,752
D. Tobacco	210,210	241,020	307,963	+ 66,943	+ 97,753
Total, Class I. ... £	4,445,260	4,581,858	4,983,523	+ 401,665	+ 538,263
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel ...	8,427,666	8,535,830	8,175,821	— 360,009	— 251,845
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel ...	130,949	153,233	150,321	— 2,912	+ 19,378
C. Other metallic ores...	35,455	47,762	35,897	— 11,865	+ 442
D. Wood and timber	15,273	11,691	28,417	+ 16,726	+ 13,144
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	347,445	406,188	410,712	+ 4,524	+ 63,267
G. Other textile materials	58,586	54,942	63,155	+ 8,213	+ 4,569
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums...	1,077,559	974,792	819,471	— 155,321	— 258,088
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	526,570	499,168	634,641	+ 135,473	+ 108,071
J. Materials for paper making ...	136,023	139,499	169,584	+ 30,085	+ 33,561
K. Miscellaneous	552,877	583,605	643,727	+ 60,122	+ 90,850
Total, Class II. ... £	11,306,397	11,406,710	11,131,746	— 274,964	— 176,651
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	10,094,918	9,046,169	9,580,055	+ 533,886	— 514,863
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	2,205,244	2,243,991	2,425,423	+ 181,432	+ 220,179
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	1,453,267	1,553,347	1,589,492	+ 36,145	+ 136,225
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus	1,261,741	289,265	393,940	+ 104,675	— 867,801
E. Machinery	6,009,556	6,519,872	6,942,108	+ 422,236	+ 932,552
F. Ships (new)	1,280,896	1,077,283	1,182,871	+ 105,588	— 98,025
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	510,170	409,590	368,023	— 41,567	— 142,147
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton...	25,412,851	26,856,853	29,819,262	+ 2,962,409	+ 4,406,411
2. Wool	8,328,641	8,748,108	10,082,172	+ 1,334,064	+ 1,753,531
3. Other materials	4,076,538	4,195,638	4,146,530	— 49,108	+ 69,992
I. Apparel	2,776,842	1,992,026	1,895,046	— 96,980	— 881,796
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	4,921,178	5,080,602	5,203,438	+ 122,831	+ 282,255
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves)	1,709,512	1,452,021	1,707,020	+ 254,999	— 2,492
L. Earthenware and glass	1,056,623	1,006,023	994,927	— 11,096	— 61,696
M. Paper...	579,869	625,851	628,996	+ 3,145	+ 49,127
N. Miscellaneous	7,236,607	7,450,040	7,965,834	+ 515,794	+ 729,227
Total, Class III. ... £	78,914,453	78,546,679	84,925,132	+ 6,378,453	+ 6,010,679
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	1,255,529	1,179,561	1,427,730	+ 248,169	+ 172,201
Total value... ... £	95,923,639	95,714,808	102,468,131	+ 6,753,323	+ 6,544,492

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.

	£	£	£	£	£
Total value...	24,253,463	25,818,360	26,849,696	+ 1,031,336	+ 2,596,233

* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship and are known as the "free on board" values.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in April, 1905.

V.—SHIPPING IN APRIL, 1905.

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month ended 30th April, 1905, amounted to 3,014,380 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 3,876,996 tons, as against 2,996,802 tons entered and 3,920,464 tons cleared in the month of April, 1904. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during April, 1905, amounted to 2,530,237 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,467,687 tons, as against 2,513,627 tons entered, and 2,475,130 tons cleared in April, 1904.

VI.—FOUR MONTHS' SHIPPING (JANUARY-APRIL).

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the four months ended 30th April, 1905, amounted to 11,760,865 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 15,345,388 tons, as against 12,111,867 tons entered and 15,246,432 tons cleared during the corresponding period of 1904. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during the first four months of 1905 amounted to 10,405,220 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 10,280,520 tons, as against 10,442,580 tons entered and 10,230,488 tons cleared during the corresponding period of 1904.

TRADE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

The following summary table has been prepared in the Board of Trade, showing the total imports and exports of merchandise of the principal countries for which the particulars can be given for January, 1905, and referring in all cases to the same period, viz., the month of January. The corresponding figures for 1904 and 1903 are added for comparison:—

—	Imports (*see* NOTE that follows tables). One Month ended January.			Exports (Domestic) (*see* NOTE that follows tables). One Month ended January.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Belgium*	7,104,000	9,386,000	8,148,000	5,198,000	5,264,000	5,935,000
France...	14,913,000	15,202,000	15,137,000	13,088,000	12,112,000	12,164,000
Spain*...	2,648,000	2,699,000	2,762,000	2,571,000	2,479,000	2,448,000
Italy	6,027,000	5,884,000	5,967,000	4,849,000	4,358,000	4,483,000
Austria-Hungary ...	6,228,000	6,711,000	7,074,000	6,000,000	6,396,000	5,559,000
Egypt	1,472,000	1,452,000	1,825,000	2,246,000	2,743,000	1,943,000
United States... ...	17,745,000	17,206,000	20,492,000	27,415,000	29,175,000	25,304,000
Japan	2,490,000	2,878,000	3,876,000	2,049,000	2,490,000	2,381,000
British India... ...	4,720,000	5,131,000	5,778,000	7,691,000	9,453,000	9,217,000
United Kingdom ...	40,159,000	40,421,000	41,653,000	24,904,000	24,083,000	24,990,000

* Value of *principal* articles only.

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Trade of Foreign Countries and British Possessions.

A comparison of the total figures for the two months ended 28th February is possible for four countries, as follows, viz.:—

—	Imports (*see* NOTE). Two Months ended February.			Exports (Domestic) (*see* NOTE). Two Months ended February.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Belgium*	15,158,000	17,012,000	16,815,000	11,188,000	11,381,000	12,517,000
France...	32,475,000	32,361,000	32,291,000	27,302,000	27,414,000	27,203,000
United States ...	34,958,000	35,753,000	41,962,000	52,958,000	53,541,000	47,656,000
United Kingdom ...	74,581,000	77,126,000	76,877,000	47,679,000	47,978,000	50,259,000

* Value of *principal* articles only.

NOTE.—In the case of Belgium, France, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Egypt, Japan, *and United Kingdom*, the import figures given in the above summaries represent imports for home consumption only, *i.e.*, excluding re-exports. In all cases the export figures are intended to represent exports of domestic produce. In most cases, however, they include a certain amount of "nationalised" goods, *i.e.*, goods originally imported for consumption, and which, if dutiable, have been charged with duty, but which are subsequently re-exported.

The latest figures available as regards other countries from which returns are received by the Board of Trade, are as follow:—

—	Imports.			Exports (Domestic).		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Russia* (11 months)...	51,005,000	58,084,000	56,851,000	79,850,000	92,450,000	91,278,000
Germany (12 months)	281,550,000	300,134,000	314,549,000	233,889,000	250,732,000	258,625,000
Switzerland (12 mths.)	43,518,000	46,366,000	48,406,000	34,725,000	35,276,000	35,334,000
Portugal (8 months)...	8,100,000	9,046,000	9,426,000	4,184,000	4,420,000	4,654,000
Mexico† (11 months)..	13,367,000	13,793,000	14,649,000	13,994,000	15,870,000	16,041,000
Canada (12 months)...	42,524,000	50,655,000	51,062,000	43,282,000	44,184,000	39,307,000

* European and Black Sea Frontiers.

† The values of the imports are stated in gold, and the dollar has been converted into English currency at the rate of 4*s*. The values of the exports are stated in silver, and the dollar has been converted into English currency for the years ended 30th June, 1902, 1903, 1904, at 1*s*. 9½*d*., 1*s*. 8*d*., and 1*s*. 10*d*. respectively; 1*s*. 11*d*. has been taken for the first five months (July to November) of the year 1904–5. The figures for Mexico include bullion and specie.

For detailed particulars regarding the trade of the several countries, reference should be made to the "Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions," including figures received up to 31st March, to be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C.

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Forthcoming Reduction of Tea Duty—Facilities for blending and re-packing Tea in Bond.

The Commissioners of Customs have recently issued a General Order (No. 32/1905), notifying that, in pursuance of a Resolution of the House of Commons, the duty on tea imported into the United Kingdom is to be levied at the rate of 6*d.* per lb. from the 1st July, 1905, until the 1st July, 1906. The Commissioners direct that in the case of teas required for delivery on or after the 1st July, the duty may be received on deposit prior to that date, and arrangements made for the issue of the delivery orders early on the 1st July, when the deposits are to be brought to account.

The Order also calls the attention of merchants concerned to the facilities for blending and re-packing tea in bond for home consumption, as described in the "London Port Order, 49/1904,"* which have now been made permanent.

* A copy of this Order may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Customs Decisions.

A copy of the "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" for 18th March last has been received, containing various Customs decisions (Supplement No. 42 to the Customs Tariff Guide) relating to the rates of duty leviable on certain articles imported into the Commonwealth.

The following are the principal decisions given:—

Articles and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
Ammonia cubes, being carbonate of ammonia—	
As carbonate of ammonia	5*s.* per cwt.
Barley, "Manhu," prepared—	
As grain-prepared barley	½*d.* per lb.
*Boots, horse (wholly or partly leather)—	
As leather manufactures, n.e.i.	20 % *ad val.*
Cards, with pictures without printing on the back, to be finished off as post cards—	
As manufactured stationery...	25 % "
Curtains—	
In the piece, with lace sewn thereto—	
As piece-goods, velvets, velveteens, &c.	15 % "
In the piece, edged with cotton material not being lace—	
As piece-goods—cotton and linen	5 % "

* Revised decision.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—*continued.*

Articles and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
Glycerine emollient—	
As medicines	15 % *ad val.*
Knee-caps, horse (wholly or partly leather)—	
As leather manufactures n.e.i.	20 % „
*Lace, military imitation, gold or silver—	
As piece-goods, velvets, velveteens, &c.	15 % „
Milk, dry—	
As milk, concentrated	1*d.* per lb., irrespective of concentration.
* Netting—cotton valance, in the piece, with whipped, taped or woven edge—	
As piece-goods—cotton and linen	5 % *ad val.*
Paste, dextrine—	
As glue, gelatine, n.e.i.	20 % „
Plans of steamships, showing berthing accommodation, and also Plates, fashion, "Buttericks"—	
As stationery (free)	Free.
Tape, gathering, for window blinds—	
As web	Free.
Yeast, brewers'—	
As other articles	Free.

* Revised decision.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Regulations affecting Re-entry of Articles Exported for Repairs.

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" for 7th April last, contains a special Notice issued by the Postmaster-General drawing the attention of the public to the method of registration for "re-entry" of articles exported for repairs from the Colony as follows:—

"The question having frequently arisen as to the amount of duty leviable on articles re-imported by the Parcel Post after having been exported for repairs, the attention of the public is drawn to the use of the Customs Registration Certificate, under which, by authority of the Controller of Customs, duty is assessed on the cost of repairs instead of on the full value, provided the certificate is filled in at a Post Office at the time the article is exported.

"This registration certificate, which does not cover substituted articles, may be obtained at the principal Post Offices throughout the Colony."

TRANSVAAL.

Special Duties on Bounty-fed Sugar.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the "Transvaal Government Gazette" for 7th April last, which contains a Government Notice (No. 310 of 1905) dated 6th April, 1905, respecting the importation into the Transvaal of sugar from countries not adhering to the Brussels Sugar Convention.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

TRANSVAAL—*continued.*

The above Government Notice provisionally fixes the rates of special additional duties to be imposed on bounty-fed sugar under section 6 of Ordinance 41 of 1903, and also lays down the regulations to be observed respecting the importation of sugar into the Colony.

The rates of the additional duties and the regulations are similar in all respects to those already published for Natal on p. 406 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 2nd March, 1905.

FRANCE—UNITED KINGDOM (BRITISH INDIA; CEYLON; BRITISH EAST AFRICA, CENTRAL AFRICA, AND UGANDA PROTECTORATES; AND SEYCHELLE ISLANDS).

Commercial Conventions.

The French "Journal Officiel" for the 22nd April contains the text of four Conventions between France and the United Kingdom, respecting the commercial relations of France with (1) British India, (2) Ceylon, (3) the British East and Central Africa and Uganda Protectorates, and (4) the Seychelle Islands, which were ratified at London on the 27th March last.

The effect of these Conventions is to admit certain "colonial produce"* of the above-mentioned British Colonies and Protectorates into France, Algeria, and the French Colonies and Possessions (including Protectorates) at the lowest rates of duty applicable to similar products of other foreign origin; while the natural and manufactured products of France and French Possessions are reciprocally entitled on importation into the British Possessions named to the lowest rates of duty applicable to similar products of other foreign origin.

In addition, it is provided that the duties on *vinegar in casks* and on *green vitriol* (ferrous sulphate), the produce of France and French Possessions, shall not exceed 2½ per cent. *ad valorem* on importation into **British India**, and shall be reduced by 50 per cent. on importation into **Ceylon**. The duties on *wine*, and on *articles of clothing and haberdashery*, the produce of the same countries, imported into the **Seychelle Islands**, are to be reduced as follows:—

		From	To
Wines—			
In wood	... per hectol.	10 rupees ...	9 rupees
In bottle	...per doz. bottles	4 „ ...	2 „
Articles of clothing and haberdashery	... ...	15 % *ad val.* ...	12½ % *ad val.*

It is provided that the certificates of origin necessary to secure

* The articles entitled to these reductions of duty are:—Coffee, cocoa, pepper, pimento, amomums and cardomums, cinnamon, *cassia lignea*, nutmegs, mace, cloves, vanilla, and tea.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

these reduced duties shall be visèed by French and British Consuls respectively free of charge.

The Conventions came into force immediately after the exchange of ratifications, and are to remain in force until a year after denunciation by either contracting party.

FRANCE—HONDURAS.

Commercial Convention.

The French "Journal Officiel" for the 23rd April, contains the text of a Presidential Decree promulgating a Commercial Convention between France and Honduras, which was ratified at Paris on 21st March last.

The effect of the Convention is to admit certain * "colonial produce" of Honduranean origin into France and French Possessions (including Protectorates) at the lowest rates of duty applicable to similar produce of other foreign origin; while French natural and manufactured products are reciprocally entitled on importation into Honduras to the lowest rates of duty applicable to similar products of other foreign countries, excepting the Republics of Central America.

The Convention came into force immediately after the exchange of ratifications, and is to remain in force until a year after its denunciation by either contracting party.

SPAIN.

Hides—Definition of "Direct Importation" Untanned.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Spanish Royal Order, dated the 3rd April, 1905, modifying the first exception to Disposition 10 of the Customs Tariff (which defines "direct importation"), so as to read as follows:—

"Goods shall retain the privileges of direct importation in the "following cases:—

"(1) When the vessels carrying them enter foreign ports by "reason of stress of weather, for the purpose of receiving orders, "*or to embark or disembark passengers,*† without taking in or "discharging cargo."

The Order also extends to *untanned hides* the special privileges accorded to raw cotton by the Royal Order of the 14th July, 1900,‡ in the matter of touching at intermediate foreign ports.

Untanned hides of extra-European origin, imported into Spain in vessels which have touched at foreign European ports to take in or discharge cargo, will accordingly not be subject to the surtax of 3 pesetas per 100 kilogs. (1*s.* 2½*d.* per cwt.) leviable upon

* See note on previous page.
† The words in *italics* are added by the present Royal Order.
‡ *See* "Board of Trade Journal" for 9th August, 1900.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

SPAIN—*continued.*

untanned hides imported from, or transhipped in, a European port; provided that the consignments are accompanied by a direct bill of lading and by a certificate issued by the Custom-house of the said European port, *visé* by the Spanish Consul, to the effect that the hides which arrived in the vessel at the port of call were not disembarked.

Rate of Exchange for Adjustment of Customs Duties payable in Gold.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 1st May contains a Royal Order notifying that the average rate of exchange (premium of exchange on Paris) during the second fortnight of April was 32·25 per cent., and that the corresponding reduction in payments of Customs duties which have to be made in gold during the first fortnight of the present month is to be 24 per cent.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Regulations respecting the Importation and Inspection of Tea.

A Circular issued by the United States Treasury Department on the 6th February last contains the regulations in force governing the importation and inspection of tea under the Act of 1897, entitled "An Act to prevent the importation of impure and unwholesome tea."

Article 19 of these Regulations contains a list of tea standards which have been selected by the Board of Tea Experts for testing teas imported into the United States during the present year.

The complete text of the Act and Regulations may be seen by persons interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

New Immediate Transportation Ports.

In virtue of a recent Act of the United States Congress, Rouses Point and Malone, New York, have been constituted subports of entry in the Customs collection district of Champlain, and have received the privileges of ports open for the immediate transportation of dutiable merchandise.

MEXICO.

New Mining Law—Stamp Tax on Gold and Silver.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Mexican Law, dated 25th March, 1905, respecting the mining industry and the taxes on gold and silver refineries established in the Republic.

The following is the substance of those provisions of the Law which affect imports or exports:—

Article 2.—Gold and silver produced in the Republic, or imported from abroad, remain subject to the internal stamp tax, which is to be levied in future at the following rates:—

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

MEXICO—*continued.*

Gold and silver exported in the form of mineral ores or earths, cyanides, sulphides, furnace residuum, or otherwise, in combination with non-metallic substances ... ... 3½ % *ad val.*

Gold and silver refined in the country up to the point at which they are no longer combined with any non-metallic substances... ... ... 2½ % „

Article 3.—For the purpose of levying the tax referred to in the preceding article, gold is to be taken at the rate of 75 centigrammes of pure gold to the dollar; and the value of silver is to be determined by taking the average price at which it has been sold on the London market during the previous month.*

Article 4.—The 2½ per cent. on refined gold or silver exported is to be reduced in favour of establishments which refine those metals up to at least 99·9 per cent. fineness.

Article 5.—The internal stamp tax is not to be levied upon silver or gold in certain forms, including:—

(1) Silver exported in the form of mineral ore, earth, or dust; provided that these substances be in their natural state or only mechanically concentrated, and in the form of sulphides, cyanides, or furnace residuum, and provided that the amount of silver contained therein does not exceed 250 grammes to the ton.

(2) Silver and gold which, having been imported into the Republic in any of the forms described in the previous paragraph, or in a partially refined state, are re-exported within a period of four months, in the form of slabs, ingots, or bars, after having been treated in Mexican refineries.

Exemptions from Import Duty. The following articles are exempt from import duty under Articles 13, 14 and 15 of this Law:—

Tariff No.	
295	Zinc, in ingots, filings, powder, or wire.
303	„ sheets, not exceeding 1 by 2½ metres in length and breadth, and 1 millimetre in thickness.
358	Sulphur.
654	†Sulphuric acid.
677	Alkaline cyanides.
697	Hyposulphite of soda.
716	Saltpetre, or nitrate of potash or of soda.
719	†Sulphate of copper.
800	‡Machinery imported by mining or metallurgical establishments in which the precious metals are refined.

The above-mentioned provisions of this Law were to take effect from the 1st May.

A complete translation of the Law may be seen by persons interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

* A Circular describing in detail the method to be employed in determining the value of silver in accordance with the provisions of this Article, was published in the Mexican "Diario Oficial" for the 31st March, and may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

† Until 30th June, 1908.

‡ Duty must be paid on these articles, but such duties are *refunded* on certain conditions. This privilege is granted until 30th June, 1908.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

CUBA.

Stamping of Cases containing Wines, Spirits, &c.

The Cuban "Gaceta Oficial" for the 1st April, contains a notice pointing out that the practice of omitting to attach the appropriate stamps to cases containing wines, liqueurs, and other similar liquids, and of simply marking such cases with the word "stamped" (*sellado*), on the ground that the bottles or other receptacles contained therein are stamped, is contrary to law. The regulations requiring the boxes themselves to bear special stamps must in all cases be complied with.

COLOMBIA.

New Customs Tariff.—*Continued from p. 214 of last week's "Board of Trade Journal."*

[NOTE.—All the duties given below, with the exceptions mentioned in Article V, require to be increased by the surtax of 70 per cent.]

	Per kilog. Dols. Gold.
Sisal-hemp, osier, and other similar articles.	
Empty sacks or bags of sisal hemp (agave fibre), tarred or not, with or without waterproof paper, and tissues thereof for the manufacture of such sacks	0 02
Hay and straw	0 01
Palm leaves for the manufacture of hats	0 03
Reed-mace (*espadana*), straw and common twigs, unwrought or manufactured into brooms	0 03
Baskets of osiers or other twigs	0 10
Mats and door-mats of all kinds	0 03
Iron and Steel.	
Iron, unmanufactured	0 01
Rails, spikes for rails, and other materials for public railways	Free.
Rails for private railways	0 03
Ships and boats, or parts thereof	0 01
Anchors and grapnels for small boats	0 02
Bridges for public roads	Free.
" for private roads	0 03
Gasometers, apparatus, pipes, and lamps for public lighting	Free.
Articles of iron intended for the construction or repair of penitentiary establishments	Free.
Telegraph wire for public use	Free.
Wire for private use	0 02
Iron wire for fencing (*fierro acerado*), and staples and other accessories for fixing it	0 01
Railing for ornamenting public buildings and squares	Free.
Lightning conductors	Free.
Pipes for district water supply and for public fountains or troughs	Free.
Lighthouses and beacons, and towers therefor	0 01
Tower clocks, including dials and bells	0 02
Houses, and galvanised iron in plates and sheets, for roofing	0 01
Balustrading for buildings, doors, windows, &c., imported separately	0 03
Fire engines and apparatus	0 01
Hydraulic pumps and machinery, with their pipes and other accessories	0 03
Machines—	
For manufacturing purposes and for mines	0 01
For agricultural purposes	0 02
For arts, trade, and industry	0 03
Not mentioned, the weight of which does not exceed 1,000 kilogs.	0 03
Of all kinds, the weight of which exceeds 1,000 kilogs.	0 61

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COLOMBIA—*continued.*

	Per kilog. Dols.	Gold.
Presses for printers, bookbinders, and lithographers	0	02
Motors of all kinds and of any power	0	02
Tinplates	0	03
"Monitors" and large cylinders for coffee-preparing machines	0	02
Boilers, large	0	03
Tanks for drinking water	0	01
Stamps for ore-crushing machines and mills	0	03
Anvils and pulley-blocks	0	03
Ploughs	0	02
Plates or rods not included in unwrought iron; bedsteads, large chains, safes, nails and tacks; kitchen cooking utensils, not tinned or only tinned inside; flat irons; large implements for agricultural purposes, for quarries and for mines, such as hoes, picks and crow-bars, shovels, drill bits, large hooks (*garlanchas*), axes, large drills for mines, spades, stone-hammers, pickaxes, drills, pruning-knives, machetes, and other knives for felling timber	0	03
Tools for blacksmiths, stonemasons, carpenters and bricklayers	0	10
Moulds (*hormas*, instruments for arts and trades)	0	10
Wire, rings, hinges, screws, and springs for furniture	0	10
Furniture	0	10
Tires, wheels, axles, springs and pins for carriages and carts	0	03
Scales, balances, &c., for weighing more than 100 kilogs.	0	05
" " for weighing 100 kilogs. and less	0	10
Currycombs and brushes	0	10
Cooking utensils and other articles of copper or iron tinned both on the interior and on the exterior	0	10
Knives for trades and industries, such as bookbinders' and shoemakers' knives	0	10
Cutlery not otherwise mentioned	0	20
Side arms, fire-arms and other arms, including sporting guns	1	50
Razors and scissors, fine or half-fine; knives and forks with handles of ivory, mother-of-pearl, Britannia metal, or with electro-plated handles; nipples for guns; beads, gilt or silvered; pencil cases, jewellery, and all gilt or silvered articles, also those of German silver or electro-plated, fine or half-fine	0	80
Steel in bars or rods for manufacture, and drills of steel	0	10
Iron and steel manufactured into articles not otherwise mentioned ...	0	20
Copper and bronze.		
Copper or bronze, unwrought, in bars, and in ingots	0	05
Plates or sheets, of whatever weight	0	05
Pans or boilers, or other articles the weight of which exceeds 25 kilogs.	0	10
Articles the weight of which exceeds 500 grammes but does not exceed 25 kilogs.	0	20
Articles the weight of which does not exceed 500 grammes	0	30
Jewellery, beads, galloons, spangles, fringes, bugles, wire, and similar articles, electro-plated articles, and percussion caps for fire-arms ...	0	80
Statues for the ornamentation of public buildings and squares	Free	
Tin.		
Tin, in ingots	0	05
" in plates and other articles	0	20
" in powder or in sheets	0	30
Lead.		
Lead in ingots, for mines ("*para minas*")	0	02
Slabs, pipes, and other articles exceeding 5 kilogs. in weight; types, &c., for printing, and shot. Lead in ingots which are not destined for mines	0	03
Toys, foil and thin sheets	0	50

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COLOMBIA—*continued.*

	Per kilog. Dols.	Gold.
Capsules for recipients	0	05
Lead in any other shape	0	20
Zinc.		
Zinc, unwrought, in plates and sheets, including those for roofing, and in pipes	0	03
Manufactured into any other article	0	20
Quicksilver.		
Mercury for mines ("*para minas*")	0	02
„ for other purposes	0	10
Gold.		
Gold in bars	0	02
„ in coins of a fineness of not less than 90 per cent.	Free	
„ in all other manufactures	1	50
Silver.		
Silver in bars	0	02
„ in coins of a fineness of not less than 90 per cent.	Free	
„ in all other manufactures	1	50
Explosives.		
Gunpowder, coarse and ordinary, for mines, in barrels and other recipients the gross weight of which exceeds 2 kilogs.	0	03
Gun-cotton known as tonite, for mines	0	03
Gunpowder, fine (known as *mostacilla*) in cans or other recipients, and generally all gunpowder not comprised in the foregoing paragraph	0	40
Fireworks	0	50
Stones, building material, and other raw material.		
Stones, filtering	0	02
„ lithographic, whetstones and pumice stone	0	03
„ flint	0	05
Marble and jasper in slabs and tiles	0	01
„ otherwise than in slabs, tiles and lithographic stones	0	10
„ in powder; clay, earth, or Roman cement; lime; gypsum, raw or in powder, chalk, feldspath, silica, massicot, kaolin, bone in powder, and other raw materials for the manufacture of crockery	0	01
Statues and monuments destined for the ornamentation of public buildings and squares	Free	
Slates for roofing	0	01
Clay tiles	Free	
Roofing tiles	0	01
Building material, such as unwrought stone, clay bricks, and paving-tiles made of burnt clay and stone	Free	
Gypsum, manufactured in any manner, not elsewhere mentioned in the tariff	0	05
Colouring earths for buildings	0	03
Alabaster in any form	0	10
Crucibles	0	03
Miscellaneous.		
Animals, living	Free	
Coal	0	01
Tar	0	03
Pitch, black, for shipbuilding	0	03
Resin, yellow	0	01
Glue, common	0	10
Tow or rope-yarn and felt for packing purposes	0	03
Varnishes	0	10
Paints, in powder or prepared	0	10

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COLOMBIA—*continued.*

	Per kilog. Dols.	Gold.
Paint and whitewash brushes, common	0	10
Horse and boot brushes...	0	10
Blacking for shoes	0	10
Wax, black	0	03
Seeds, shoots and graftings of plants, and live plants	0	01
Guano	0	03
Hops	0	05
Bone and horn, unwrought	0	03
Tubes, hose, and gutters of wood, caoutchouc, earthenware, clay or metal, for pumps, drains and roofs, with the exception of those for fire-engines	0	03
Fuses for mines	0	03
Cork, in sheets or in corks	0	05
Apparatus for chemical laboratories and meteorological instruments ...	0	05
Buttons, common, of bone, horn, vegetable ivory, and of composition, not covered	0	20
Buttons, common, of mother-of-pearl...	0	40
Combs of horn, common	0	20
Slates and slate pencils...	0	03
Umbrellas...	0	60
Hats, caps, bonnets, &c., shall pay respectively as ready-made clothing according to the tissues or materials of which composed, with the exception of straw hats which, in general, pay 90 centavos per kilog. (40 centavos per kilog. if common).		
Articles imported for account of the Government, whatever their nature	Free	
Personal effects of Foreign Ministers or Diplomatic Agents accredited to the Government, provided that the Governments to whom they belong grant the same privilege to the Ministers and Diplomatic Agents of the Republic, and on compliance with the formalities relative to the matter	Free	
Natural products of Ecuador, Venezuela, Peru, and other countries which have granted, or which in the future may grant, by treaty, the same privilege to Colombian products	Free	
Passengers' baggage, up to the weight of 150 kilogs. per person, provided that the effects be clearly destined for their use and that they be presented by them, in person, at the Custom-house on entry into the country...	Free	
Any excess over 150 kilogs. not accompanied by an invoice shall be dutiable as the most highly taxed article mentioned in the tariff.		
All articles not otherwise mentioned	0	70
Special Classes.		
Manufactured tobacco—		
Cigars	3	00
Cigarettes	3	50
In any other form	1	50
Brandy, champagne, whisky, chartreuse, and other similar beverages ...	2	00
Flour and meal, including sago, arrow-root, tapioca, maizena, and other similar products	0	08
Sugar	0	10
Salt, except that imported at Buenaventura and Tumaco, where the present duties will be leviable	1	50*
Precious stones in jewels	10 % *ad val*	

Article 3.—From the publication of the present Decree all exemptions from import duty are suspended, with the exception of those stipulated in contracts still in force.

* Per 12½ kilogs.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COLOMBIA—*continued.*

Article 5 exempts from the surtax of 70 per cent. the following articles:—

1. English leather, patent leather, dressed lamb or kid skins, and glazed leather; hemp thread and fibre (*pita*), and coloured fibre (*pita*) in clews.
2. Substances for colouring tissues; woollen, cotton, and jute yarns, white or coloured, sized, for tissues.

Article 6.—The tariff at present in force for the Custom-house of Tumaco remains in operation, without surtax, until the Government establish a new tariff for that port.

Articles 8 *and* 9.—For the purpose of consular certification, invoices are divided into four classes, the fees on which are as follows:—

	Pesos.	Cts.
1st. Invoices covering only articles of iron, steel, copper, zinc, or wood, destined for machinery for industrial undertakings, such as railway and steamship services, electric lighting, telegraphs, telephones, printing establishments, manufactories of glass, earthenware, or tissues, provided that such undertakings have been declared to be of public utility	9	00
2nd. Invoices for goods of a value not greater than 200 pesos	18	00
3rd. Invoices for goods, the value of which exceeds 200 pesos but does not exceed 500 pesos	24	00
4th. Invoices for goods, the value of which exceeds 500 pesos	30 pesos for every 1,000 pesos or fraction thereof.	

Article 10.—Fees for the certification of manifests will be charged by consuls at the rate of 15 pesos for the first 100 packages, and 3 pesos for each succeeding 100 packages or fraction of a hundred.

Article 11.—Postal packets will pay 6 per cent. on the commercial invoice, and a surtax of 25 per cent. of the Customs duty, in lieu of consular fees.

Article 12.—Precious stones, gold jewellery, jewellery of silver gilt, with or without precious stones, and gold articles generally, contained in postal packets, will pay Customs duty according to their value as shown in the invoice, and also a duty, in lieu of consular fees, of 10 per cent. *ad valorem*.

CHILE.

Duty free Admission of Calcium Carbide.

According to the Chilean "Diario Oficial," calcium carbide has been exempted from duty on importation into Chile by a Law promulgated on 29th December last.

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

DENMARK—ICELAND.

Shipping and Light Dues, &c.

A report by H.M. Consul at Reykjavik (Mr. J. Vidalin), recently issued by the Foreign Office, gives particulars of the shipping and light dues, as well as of harbour dues, pilotage fees, &c., payable at ports in Iceland, for which reference should be made to the report itself (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,350), obtainable from Messrs. Wyman and Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C., at a cost of 1*d.*

FRANCE.

Law as to Liability of Carriers.

The French "Journal Officiel" of 29th March contains a Law promulgated by the President of the Republic, sanctioning the addition of a paragraph to Article 103 of the French Commercial Code, which will now read as follows:—

The carrier ("voiturier") is responsible for any loss of goods carried by him, except in case of *force majeure.*

He is responsible for any damages caused other than those which arise from defects in the goods, or from *force majeure.*

Any clause stipulating otherwise inserted in a way-bill, tariff, or other document whatsoever, is declared null and void.

In a despatch received at the Foreign Office, from H.M. Ambassador at Paris (Sir F. Bertie, G.C.M.G.), it is stated that the term "voiturier" in this article applies to carriers engaged in all kinds of interior transport, whether by land or water.

SPAIN.

Load Line Regulation.

H.M. Consul at Bilbao (Mr. C. G. Wood), reports that orders have been issued in regard to the matter of load lines which are similar to the British Board of Trade Regulations, and some over-loaded vessels have been obliged to land part of their cargoes as well as pay fines. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3 352.)

AUSTRIA—HUNGARY.

Zone Tariff on Hungarian Railways.

In his report recently published by the Foreign Office, Mr. Alan Johnstone, Councillor to H.M. Embassy at Vienna, remarks that the Hungarian Minister of Communications, Gabriel Baross, whose name is inseparably connected with the history of the absorption of railway lines by the State, popularised the State management especially by the introduction of the so-called zone tariff on the Hungarian State lines. This was an exceedingly important step in the direction of cheap passenger and goods tariffs on the Hungarian, and, by the intimate connection between the two Austrian lines.

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Shipping and Transport.

The result of the introduction of the zone tariff in Hungary (it is mainly founded on the principle of offering relatively lower tariffs for greater distances, thus promoting long-distance traffic) was to give an impetus to passenger and goods traffic hitherto undreamed of. Experience has shown, however, that the railway is compelled frequently to carry below the actual cost, and that the State lines out of their receipts are unable to earn the interest on the loans which had to be issued for the purchase of the railways. The consequence of cheap tariffs is, therefore, that the State is forced to cover from other sources of income the deficits in the interest payable on the railway loans. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,343.)

MINERALS, METALS, AND MACHINERY.

TRINIDAD.

Manjak, Asphalt, &c.

A report on Trinidad manjak by the Government geologist (Mr. E. H. Cunningham-Craig, B.A., F.G.S.), and a publication embodying some analytical notes on the island's asphalt, manjak, petroleum, glance pitch and iron pitch, drawn up by the Government analyst (Professor Carmody, F.I.C., F.C.S.), have been received from the Collector of Customs, Port of Spain, by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, and may be seen at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

FRANCE—MADAGASCAR.

Newly Discovered Gold Deposits.

The "Quinzaine Coloniale" (Paris) notifies the discovery in Madagascar of gold deposits richer than any hitherto worked. These deposits are found near Beforana, only a few kilometres from the station of Fanovana, on the Madagascar Railway. Up to the present, 400 tons of gold-bearing quartz have been discovered, showing about 60 grammes of gold to the ton. The quantity which seems likely to result from this discovery is said to represent a value of 72,000,000 francs.

FRANCE—NEW CALEDONIA.

Modification of Mining Law.

The "Journal Officiel" of 1st May contains a Decree modifying in certain particulars the provisions of the Law as to mines in New Caledonia, promulgated on 17th October, 1896.

The "Journal" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

ITALY.

Mineral Resources of Siena and Grosseto.

A report on the "Mineral Wealth of the Provinces of Siena and Grosseto," by H.M. Consul-General at Florence (Major W. P. Chapman), has recently been published by the Foreign Office (*Miscellaneous Series, No.* 633).

These two provinces, which together cover an area of 2,029,936 acres, on the south join on to the Province of Rome, and are bounded on the west by the Mediterranean.

It appears from this report that there are openings for developing the manganiferous iron ore deposits at Monte Argentario; the copper mining industry in the Leghorn district; and the quicksilver mining south of Monte Amiata.

Mr. Chapman also calls attention to the prospects for the further utilisation of other minerals, viz.: antimony, sulphur, boracic acid, fossil meal, and marbles.

BELGIUM.

Coal Production in 1904.

The following statistics of the coal production of Belgium for 1904, as compared with the three preceding years, are taken from the "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" of 30th April:—

Year.	Amount.
	Tons.
1901	22,082,857
1902	22,810,809
1903	23,913,240
1904	23,380,025

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Petroleum Deposits of Mesopotamia.

In a recent report by the Belgian Consul at Bagdad (M. Puttmann) reproduced in the "Bulletin Commercial" of 22nd April, he states that the Anatolia Railway Company have been authorised to make borings for petroleum in various parts of Mesopotamia; the Deutsche Bank are said to be interested in this enterprise. Rich sources have been discovered near the Tigris, to the north of Samarra, in the Province of Bagdad, and near Hit, on the Euphrates. Difficulty is experienced in working these sources owing to the number of brigands who infest the province.

Conditions are said to be more favourable in the district of Kerkuk (vilayet of Mossul). Four sources are known to exist to the south of the town of Kerkuk; while to the north, on the main road, ten wells are being worked in primitive fashion by a Turkish native. Other petroleum sources are to be found on the east of Kerkuk.

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

At Mendeli, on the Persian frontier, both coal and petroleum exist. The coal has been tried on the Tigris steamers, but it did not prove a success, being too bituminous. The petroleum is used for lighting purposes in the surrounding districts.

Extensive borings have been undertaken at Kasr Shirin by a group of British and Australian capitalists, but so far, without any results.

M. Puttmann is of opinion that, although the petroleum deposits of the country have not hitherto been systematically worked, they are doubtless of considerable extent. They must however, he thinks, remain undeveloped until the completion of the Bagdad Railway, unless works are carried out to secure free navigation on the Tigris and the Euphrates.

YARNS AND TEXTILES.

INDIA.

Cotton Spinning and Weaving Returns for January.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the monthly return issued by the Indian Government, showing the quantity of cotton yarn spun, and of cotton woven goods produced, in each province in British India, and in the Native States, during January of each of the years 1903, 1904 and 1905, and in the ten months, April to January, 1903, 1904, and 1905.

The following is a summarised statement extracted from the above return, giving particulars for the ten months ended January, 1903, 1904 and 1905:—

	Ten Months ended January.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.
British India, Berar, and Native States.			
Cotton yarn spun ... ... Lbs.	480,993,021	494,901,767	474,440,113
Cotton woven goods produced:—			
Grey goods ... ... "	84,557,203	95,258,469	109,937,131
Grey goods ... ... = Yards	344,575,706	389,322,481	460,905,544
Figured and coloured goods Lbs.	17,365,554	20,131,320	21,967,857
Hosiery ... ... "	535,886	745,975	687,542
Miscellaneous goods ... "	1,185,167	1,320,281	2,044,832

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Exports of Cotton Goods.

The following statement, showing the exports of cotton goods (domestic manufacture) from the United States to the undermentioned countries during the three months ended March, 1904 and 1905, has been compiled from the official statistics issued by the United States Government:—

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Yarns and Textiles.

To	Three months ended March. 1904.	1905.
Coloured and uncoloured cloths—	Yards.	Yards.
United Kingdom	488,215	856,203
France	—	—
Germany	30,325	16,015
Other Europe	296,443	332,759
British North America	2,539,304	2,394,407
Central America and British Honduras	5,413,855	7,131,757
Mexico	710,105	869,461
Cuba	1,290,882	3,404,109
Other West Indies and Bermuda	5,003,131	6,975,277
Argentina	660,204	1,280,577
Brazil	2,561,459	2,648,777
Chile	3,977,787	3,494,114
Colombia	3,059,677	3,190,307
Venezuela	2,147,576	2,368,083
Other South America	1,614,982	2,152,485
Chinese Empire	31,365,619	119,208,698
British East Indies	2,050,840	2,861,335
Hong-Kong	69,796	165,742
Japan	22,614	3,482,890
British Australasia	1,151,376	1,385,845
Philippine Islands	1,375,213	4,821,930
Other Asia and Oceania	7,619,607	2,866,195
British Africa	2,064,632	1,277,810
All other Africa	93,727	93,545
Total quantity ... ... Yards	75,607,369	173,278,321
Total value ... ... Dols.	4,488,210	10,112,860
Other cotton goods—	Dollars.	Dollars.
United Kingdom	237,335	257,379
Belgium	20,676	21,105
France	2,852	5,812
Germany	237,877	115,017
Netherlands	9,379	4,129
Other Europe	19,204	19,015
British North America	616,882	594,680
Central America and British Honduras	143,807	162,584
Mexico	131,575	158,367
Cuba	62,819	73,637
Other West Indies and Bermuda	55,441	54,721
Argentina	29,059	95,608
Brazil	21,718	16,614
Chile	5,917	2,282
Colombia	22,138	13,443
Venezuela	15,590	5,118
Other South America	10,953	9,914
Chinese Empire	5,285	18,937
British East Indies	1,236	1,001
Hong-Kong	6,079	4,113
British Australasia	95,379	91,387
Philippine Islands	19,221	22,259
Other Asia and Oceania	15,611	64,064
British Africa	34,659	71,304
All other Africa	1,785	2,601
Other countries	1,829	2,328
Total value ... ... Dols.	1,824,306	1,887,419
Grand total value of all cotton goods exported...	6,312,516	12,000,279

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 6th May, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.*	8*d.*
Barley	25*s.*	3*d.*
Oats	18*s.*	0*d.*

For further particulars see p. 277.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 278, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 6th May, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

GERMANY.

Potato Crop.

The Commercial Attaché to H.M. Embassy at Berlin (Mr. William S. H. Gastrell) has forwarded a memorandum on the final official statistics of the potato crop for the German Empire for 1904, which show an area of 3,287,861 hectares cultivated and a production of 36,287,192 tons of potatoes. This means a yield of 11·04 tons per hectare.

FRANCE—TUNIS.

Harvest Prospects.

H.M. Consul-General at Tunis (Mr. E. J. L. Berkeley) states, under date of 22nd April, that according to local reports, the protracted drought has seriously compromised the crops in general, and it is feared that the harvest this year will be meagre. There is, however, still a chance that cultivation under European care and in the northern districts may survive provided rain falls shortly, but the harvest in general will surely be bad.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Banana Trade of Boston.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office, from H.M. Consul at Boston (Capt. Wyndham), reporting on the banana trade of that port, in course of which it is stated that the system of selling now in use by the United Fruit Company is at a fixed price per pound.

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Agriculture.

By this method one buyer does not get a load of heavy fruit while another, paying the same price for the same grade fruit, receives a load of light weight bunches.

Messrs. W. W. and C. R. Noyes are selling their cargoes according to the old system of a fixed price per bunch.

The Atlantic Fruit Company, who have recently entered the Boston banana market, have introduced the auction system which is used in new York by several banana importers. In general it is said that the history of the auction system has been lower prices than under the other methods. Prices at auction in Boston on the 14th April for the only cargo which arrived were as follows:—No. 1, 3*s.* 9*d.* to 4*s.* 2*d.* per bunch; eight hand, 4*s.* 2*d.* to 4*s.* 6*d.*; No. 2, 2*s.* 9*d.* to 3*s.* 2*d.*; sevens, 1*s.* 7*d.* to 2*s.*

During the summer months six vessels a week, four of 2,000 tons and two of 1,500 tons, bring bananas to Boston.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Milk Industry.

The "Review of the River Plate" (Buenos Ayres) calls attention to a report on the milk industry of Argentina, drawn up by the Statistical Office at the request of the Agricultural Department.

The enquiry has elicited an almost unanimous request for the establishment of model dairies and training schools, as the difficulty of obtaining competent labour is admitted to be one of the principal wants of the industry.

The report predicts a successful future for the industry and suggests the adoption of the following measures:—

1. To fix the costs of transport, compelling the railway companies to carry the milk, cream and butter in cold storage waggons.

2. To make efforts for the repeal of those municipal and provincial taxes which weigh so heavily on this industry.

3. To regulate the interior and exterior trade of all milk products.

4. To aid and assist in the formation of small co-operative societies, with local factories.

5. To found technical classes and practical dairy schools in the respective productive zones.

6. To encourage and assist the export of cheese.

7. To order a technical study of the milk industry in all its phases as affecting the Argentine Republic.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 4th May, 1905, was 86,990 (including 191 bales British West Indian and 29 bales British West African), and the number imported during the 18 weeks ended the 4th May was 1,567,914 (including 1,534 bales British West Indian and 843 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 4th May, 1905, 19,069 bales, and for the 18 weeks, 183,558 (including 16 bales British West African).

For further details see p. 277.

A return showing the number of bales of cotton imported and exported, forwarded from ports to Inland towns, and returned to ports during the month and four months ended 30th April, last, will be found on p. 276.

Emigration.

The number of emigrants that left the United Kingdom during the month of April, 1905, was 53,030, as compared with 44,026 during the same month of 1904.

For further details see p. 279.

Alien Immigration.

The number of aliens arriving at ports in the United Kingdom during April, 1905, was 18,791, and during the four months ended 30th April, 67,078. Detailed statistics of alien immigration will be found on p. 280.

Regulations under the Merchandise Marks Act.

The Board of Trade have received from H.M. Customs a copy of some regulations recently issued by the Commissioners of Customs under Section 16 of the Merchandise Marks Act, 1887. These regulations, which vary former regulations in respect of the matters referred to, are as follows:—

The amount for which security by bond is to be given under Regulation No. 4 shall be such sum not less than double the value of the goods as the Commissioners may require.

The time at which the security may be given up under Regulation No. 7, if forfeiture is not completed and no action or suit has been commenced against the Commissioners or any of their officers in respect of the detention, shall be at the expiration of six months from the date of detention or the trial of the information.

GERMANY.

Exports from Chemnitz to the United States.

The following figures, showing the value of the exports declared at the United States Consulate in Chemnitz during the years 1900–04, are extracted from the recent report of the British Vice-Consul at that place (Mr. F. H. Felkin):—

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Miscellaneous.

GERMANY—*continued.*

—	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£
Underwear	28,942	25,022	32,408	27,842	22,771
Hosiery—					
Cotton	780,868	739,495	925,562	965,330	871,216
Silk	8,058	9,231	17,562	19,163	20,246
Wool	11,932	12,522	15,599	13,700	10,117
Gloves—					
Cotton	110,332	110,915	210,362	239,544	219,960
Silk	22,272	14,875	40,215	87,548	39,278
Wool	15,574	62,111	173,752	79,102	34,995
Machinery	24,208	19,659	39,258	41,331	32,613
Other articles	122,002	112,425	125,268	109,204	90,420
Total ... £	1,124,188	1,106,255	1,579,986	1,582,764	1,341,616

(*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,342.)

Dividends of Industrial Stock Companies.

In the same report Mr. Felkin gives the following table, showing the dividends declared by Industrial Stock Companies in the German Empire during the year 1904:—

Industry.	Dividends.
	Per cent.
Chemical	13·92
Porcelain, glass, pottery...	11·82
Brewing and distilling	10·0
Sugar	9·35
Mining and smelting	8·68
Paper and rubber	8·23
Metal	7·73
Railway apparatus and machinery	6·69
Cement	6·53
Electrical	5·69
Textiles	5·36
Building	4·56
Flour mills	3·56

NOTE.—All higher than in 1903, except textiles.

(*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,342.)

DENMARK—ICELAND.

Trade in 1901 and 1902.

The following table, showing the value of the trade of Iceland during the years 1901 and 1902, has been taken from the report on that island prepared by H.M. Consul at Reykjavik (Mr. J. Vidalin):—

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Miscellaneous.

From and To	Imports.		Exports.	
	1901.	1902.	1901.	1902.
	£	£	£	£
Denmark	373,907	368,741	176,448	176,030
United Kingdom	133,403	133,089	115,476	147,816
Norway and Sweden	55,562	83,717	64,627	55,136
Other countries	18,336	10,646	111,436	132,101
Total	581,208	596,193	467,987	511,083

(*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,350.)

NICARAGUA.

Monopoly for Explosives Manufacture.

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Managua (Mr. Herbert Harrison) has forwarded to the Foreign Office a copy and translation of a contract, granting a monopoly in the manufacture of explosives in the Republic of Nicaragua to the "Nicaraguan Finance and Improvement Company" for the term of 50 years.

The company undertake to establish in the Republic within two years a factory for the manufacture of gunpowder, dynamite, &c. They are to have the exclusive right to introduce into the country, free of Custom-house duties, all the materials of any sort whatever required in the manufacture of every class of gunpowder, dynamite, percussion caps, &c.

The copy and translation referred to may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

ARGENTINA—SOUTH PATAGONIA.

Trade in 1904.

The Acting British Consular-Agent at Puerto Gallegos, Mr. A. J. Bishop, calls attention, in his report to the Foreign Office, to the fact that the port is a free one. The country, he says, is unsuitable for anything but sheep. The exports in 1904 were of the value of 202,000*l.*, and the imports 80,000*l.* Fifty per cent. of the exports, which include wool, frozen mutton and tallow, were consigned to the United Kingdom.

The imports for the year include fencing wire, galvanised iron, wool presses, sheep dip, coal, saddlery and other leather goods, cloth and ready-made clothing, preserved fruit and vegetables, wine, beer and spirits. Mr. Bishop adds that good shepherds and shearers are in fair demand and can obtain excellent wages. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,347.)

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.—April, 1905.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, and Returned to Ports during the Month and Four Months ended 30th April, 1905, compared with the corresponding Periods of the Year 1904.

	Month of April.		Four Months ended 30th April.	
	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*
	Imports.			
American	261,994	*149,640*	1,157,962	*883,073*
Brazilian	6,012	*15,776*	18,889	*67,384*
East Indian	8,884	*49,511*	18,218	*92,661*
Egyptian	39,988	*26,050*	194,854	*184,328*
Miscellaneous	3,982*	*6,990*	23,878†	*19,006*
Total	315,260	*247,967*	1,418,296	*1,246,452*
	Exports.			
American	19,552	*11,904*	115,941	*123,434*
Brazilian	—	*469*	828	*3,121*
East Indian	972	*7,268*	5,655	*22,514*
Egyptian	8,102	*6,350*	41,438	*36,678*
Miscellaneous	831	*267*	1,047	*3,142*
Total	28,957	*26,258*	164,409	*193,039*
	Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns.			
American	233,068	*157,792*	1,044,187	*742,461*
Brazilian	3,251	*11,718*	10,467	*35,968*
East Indian	2,267	*17,807*	11,261	*35,008*
Egyptian	27,533	*21,597*	126,934	*124,927*
Miscellaneous	3,487	*5,653*	12,487	*17,578*
Total	269,606	*214,567*	1,205,286	*955,942*
	Forwarded from Inland Towns to Ports.			
American	211	*228*	881	*1,589*
Brazilian	—	—	—	—
East Indian	—	—	—	—
Egyptian	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—
Total	211	*228*	881	*1,589*

* Including 529 bales British West Indian and 199 bales British West African.
† Including 1,446 bales British West Indian and 546 bales British West African.

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Cotton Returns—*continued.*

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported at the Various Ports of the United Kingdom during the Week and 18 Weeks ended 4th May, 1905.

—	Week ended 4th May, 1905.	18 Weeks ended 4th May, 1905.	Week ended 4th May, 1905.	18 Weeks ended 4th May, 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	74,041	1,292,883	14,858	129,540
Brazilian	281	18,389	179	507
East Indian	7	18,228	250	5,655
Egyptian	10,998	212,757	4,266	46,793
Miscellaneous	1,663*	25,657†	16	1,063‡
Total	86,990	1,567,914	19,069	183,558

* Including 191 bales British West Indian and 29 bales British West African.
† Including 1,534 bales British West Indian and 843 bales British West African.
‡ Including 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the Average Price of British Corn, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 6th May, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 6th May, 1905	30	8	25	3	18	0
Corresponding week in—						
1898	45	11	27	1	21	1
1899	25	4	23	11	17	9
1900	25	11	24	10	17	11
1901	27	3	26	2	19	1
1902	30	9	26	10	22	6
1903	27	6	21	10	18	2
1904	27	4	20	8	16	7

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 6th May, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 6th May, 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	8,547	*8,657*
Sheep and lambs	"	3,145	*8,105*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	153	*254*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	77,902	*70,503*
Mutton	"	75,039	*72,283*
Pork	"	8,514	*9,077*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	100,245	*81,935*
Beef	"	2,397	*3,600*
Hams	"	32,693	*22,754*
Pork	"	3,731	*3,917*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	14,642	*14,375*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	21,548	*13,311*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	80,814	*74,523*
Margarine	"	21,283	*17,914*
Cheese	"	10,447	*26,435*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	—	*114*
" condensed	"	13,067	*16,084*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	13	*47*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	321,992	*426,477*
Poultry	Value £	17,461	*15,956*
Game	"	1,548	*95*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	2,579	*5,614*
Lard	"	43,742	*29,913*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	2,533,500	*1,930,748*
Wheat meal and flour	"	227,800	*219,171*
Barley	"	337,600	*571,600*
Oats	"	316,600	*108,365*
Peas	"	12,685	*72,400*
Beans	"	26,430	*30,920*
Maize or Indian corn	"	649,400	*637,158*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	52,197	*42,340*
Apricots and peaches	"	6	—
Bananas	Bunches.	66,476	*90,252*
Cherries	Cwts.	63	*282*
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	166	*12*
Grapes	"	401	*310*
Lemons	"	7,930	*26,739*
Oranges	"	63,904	*138,119*
Pears	"	675	*227*
Plums	"	—	—
Strawberries	"	—	—
Unenumerated	"	2,029	*1,280*
Hay...	Tons.	1,986	*2,310*
Straw	"	2,088	*3,613*
Moss Litter*	"	2,286	—
Hops	Cwts.	1,867	*524*
Locust Beans	"	12,590	*5,065*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	250,373	*233,300*
Potatoes	Cwts.	48,761	*313,459*
Tomatoes	"	16,915	*20,132*
Unenumerated	Value £	14,063	*19,867*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	1,330	*4,185*
Preserved by canning...	"	11,166	*5,341*

* Not shown in 1904.

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Emigration.—April, 1905.

Return of the **Numbers, Nationalities,** and **Destinations*** of the **Passengers** that left the **United Kingdom** for **Places** out of **Europe** during the Month ending 30th April, 1905, and the Four Months ending 30th April, 1905, compared with the corresponding periods of the previous Year.

Nationality.	British Empire.						Foreign Countries.			Grand Total.	*Total for corresponding Period of 1904.*
	British North America.	Australia and New Zealand.	British South Africa.	India, including Ceylon.	Other British Colonies and Possessions.	Total.	United States.	Other Foreign Countries.	Total.		
	Month ending 30th April.										
English	10,928	498	1,656	173	242	13,497	6,344	388	6,732	20,229	*16,863*
Scotch	2,399	92	461	7	4	2,963	2,188	35	2,223	5,186	*4,214*
Irish	458	34	97	—	2	591	7,657	18	7,675	8,266	*8,508*
Total of British origin.	13,785	624	2,214	180	248	17,051	16,189	441	16,630	33,681	*29,585*
Foreigners	2,722	10	242	6	21	3,001	15,515	271	15,786	18,787	*14,020*
Nationalities not distinguished	—	—	—	74	175	249	77	236	313	562	*421*
Total	16,507	634	2,456	260	444	20,301	31,781	948	32,729	53,030	*44,026*
Total for corresponding period, 1904 ...	*12,732*	*761*	*2,314*	*256*	*411*	*16,474*	*26,982*	*570*	*27,552*	*44,026*	
	Four Months ending 30th April.										
English	23,478	2,629	5,805	941	1,352	34,205	18,101	1,788	19,889	54,094	*46,660*
Scotch	4,390	345	1,337	53	64	6,189	5,083	199	5,282	11,471	*9,739*
Irish	1,019	135	329	1	10	1,494	15,483	72	15,555	17,049	*12,540*
Total of British origin.	28,887	3,109	7,471	995	1,426	41,888	38,667	2,059	40,726	82,614	*68,939*
Foreigners	6,567	64	1,269	41	77	8,018	51,452	1,683	53,135	61,153	*41,511*
Nationalities not distinguished	6	—	—	534	649	1,189	344	974	1,318	2,507	*2,010*
Total	35,460	3,173	8,740	1,570	2,152	51,095	90,463	4,716	95,179	146,274	*112,460*
Total for corresponding period, 1904 ...	*30,196*	*3,283*	*9,834*	*1,641*	*2,208*	*47,162*	*62,126*	*3,172*	*65,298*	*112,460*	

* The destinations given are, in all cases, based on the ports at which the passengers contracted to land.

NOTE.—The above figures being made up at the earliest possible date after the close of each month, are subject to correction in the Annual Returns.

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Alien Immigration—April.

Statement showing the Number of **Alien** Passengers that **Arrived** from the Continent (whether in transit or not) at Ports in the **United Kingdom** during the Month and Four Months ending 30th April, 1905, compared with the corresponding period of the previous Year.

(Compiled from the Alien Lists received by the Customs under Act 6 Will. 4, c. 11, sec. 2.)

Ports of Arrival in United Kingdom.	CONTINENTAL PORTS OF EMBARKATION.															
	Hamburg, Bremen, and Bremerhaven.		Rotterdam, Amsterdam, and Antwerp.		Scandinavian Ports.		Finnish Ports.		Libau.		Dieppe.		Other Continental Ports.		Total.	
	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.	1905.	1904.
	(i.) Month ending 30th April.															
London ...	856	858	935	679	98	108	...	...	262	96	...	...	258	153	2,409	1,694
Grimsby ...	1,039	577	1,004	410	1,259	1,236	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,302	2,223
Harwich ...	...	...	...	...	1,052	1,031	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,052	1,031
Hull	196	239	305	254	3,785	4,332	1,773	662	329	423	...	...	13	65	6,401	5,975
Tyne Ports ...	15	15	27	49	1,094	1,107	...	22	...	...	...	...	2	...	1,138	1,193
Leith ...	59	51	114	142	53	33	...	...	...	...	...	...	84	9	310	235
Newhaven ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,717	1,643	...	19	1,717	1,662
Other Ports ..	48	16	329	108	156	150	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,929	1,058	2,462	1,332
Total ...	2,213	1,756	2,714	1,642	7,497	7,997	1,773	684	591	519	1,717	1,643	2,286	1,304	18,791	15,545
	(ii.) Four Months ending 30th April.															
London ...	5,700	4,244	4,537	2,724	355	452	...	...	1,855	1,176	...	...	1,369	513	13,816	9,106
Grimsby ...	3,873	2,133	2,887	6,089	4,079	2,350	...	...	...	...	...	1	3	...	10,842	10,573
Harwich ...	...	...	...	...	3,600	2,797	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,600	2,797
Hull	979	1,094	1,444	1,552	11,397	9,961	7,906	1,585	1,429	1,282	...	...	113	278	23,268	14,852
Tyne Ports ...	97	69	101	138	3,237	2,790	...	138	...	...	...	...	23	13	3,458	3,148
Leith ...	130	193	368	326	156	121	...	...	...	...	...	...	167	53	821	693
Newhaven ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,623	4,594	...	19	4,623	4,613
Other Ports ..	108	123	1,033	638	584	435	...	1	1	1	1	...	4,923	3,900	6,650	4,196
Total ...	10,887	7,856	10,370	11,517	23,408	18,056	7,906	1,724	3,285	2,458	4,624	4,595	6,598	3,776	67,078	49,982

NOTES:—(i.) ALIENS IN TRANSIT.—The above totals include Aliens in transit, but the number of such Aliens cannot be stated, as particulars on this point are not required by law to be furnished. At some ports, however, it is the usual practice to state on the Alien Lists the number of Aliens known to be "*en route* to other countries." The total number so described in April, 1905, was 11,939, compared with 9,612 in April, 1904. In the four months ending April, 1905, the number was 38,541, compared with 28,276 in the four months ending April, 1904. These figures, however, are incomplete for the reasons stated, and many Aliens not described in the Aliens Lists as "*en route* to other countries," are in fact, known by special inquiry, to have been also in transit.

(ii.) SAILORS.—The number of sailors included with the Aliens not described in the Alien Lists as *en route* to places out of the United Kingdom in the month of April, 1905, was 1,401, and 1,212 in the same month of 1904; in the four months ending April, 1905, the number was 4,688, and in the same months of 1904 the number was 4,203.

(iii.) SCOPE OF THE RETURNS.—The ports from which Alien Lists are received are Aberdeen, Belfast, Blyth, Bristol, Cardiff, Dover, Dublin, Folkestone, Glasgow, Goole, Grangemouth, Granton, Greenock, Grimsby, Harwich, Hull, Kirkcaldy, Leith, Liverpool, London, Middlesbrough, Newcastle, Newhaven, Newport, North Shields, South Shields, Southampton, Sunderland, and West Hartlepool. The lists received from Dover, Folkestone, Harwich, Newhaven, and Southampton show only deck passengers, and persons who, after landing, proceed by train as third-class passengers.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of April, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* 1*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the April issue:—State of the Labour Market in March; Wages in the Cotton Trade; Co-operative Credit Societies; Relief of the Unemployed; Prices of Coal and Iron; and Recent Conciliation and Arbitration Cases.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the Annual Series issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,355. Trade of Iquitos, 1904.

Trade satisfactory, but import market overstocked.

Hints to British exporters of ready-made clothing, shirts, hats, &c., and drugs.

Export of rubber.

Shipping trade.

Proposed railway, electric, and drainage works.

No. 3,356. Trade of the Azores, 1897-1904.

Returns of British and foreign shipping at Ponta Delgada and Horta.

Sources of importation of cottons, stationery, hardware, chemicals, &c.

Export trade in pineapples and sperm oil.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,357. Trade of Constantinople, 1904.

British sales in 1904 estimated to be up to the record level of 1901.

Returns of articles imported from the United Kingdom, and of principal articles of Austro-Hungarian and German export trade to Turkey.

Statistics of cotton and woollen goods, showing German and Italian competition; also distribution of British imports.

Displacement of British iron, steel, and cement.

Export trade of Constantinople. Need for dock accommodation there.

This publication contains also reports by H.M. representatives at Konia, Gallipoli, and Dedeagatch.

No. 3,358. Trade of Pomerania, 1904.

Increase in export trade of Stettin due to larger shipments to Denmark, Scandinavia, and the United States of America. Increase in import trade due to larger entries of coal from the United Kingdom, maize from the United States of America, and oats from Russia.

Cement industry.

Progress of shipbuilding.

Warning respecting insufficient certificates of origin.

Hints as to increasing British trade.

Tables showing trade with British colonies. General import and export statistics.

This publication contains also a report by the British Vice-Consul at Swinemünde.

No. 3,359. Trade of Trebizond, 1904.

Statistics of import and export trade, showing commercial conditions to be generally satisfactory.

Competition of Indian yarn with that of Italian make.

Particulars of Persian transit trade. Comparison of routes and map of main-road and mule tracks from Trebizond to Baiburth.

Transit charges.

Tables of imports and exports.

No. 3,360. Trade of Arabistan, 1904.

Trade in 1904 average, but bad crop prospects for present season.

State of caravan routes.

Comparative tables of principal articles of import and export at Mohammerah, with remarks as to character of trade.

No. 3,361. Trade and Agriculture of Thessaly, 1904.

British imports show satisfactory increase both in quantity and value.

Analysis of British and foreign shipping.

Crop statistics.

Tables of import and export trade showing countries of origin and destination.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,362. Trade of Rosario, 1904.

Continued improvement in trade, due to good harvests. Important demand for agricultural machinery.

Improved railway and port facilities.

Opening for electric plant and appliances.

Articles for which there is a good sale.

Construction of a new port at Santa Fé.

Statistics of trade.

No. 3,363. Trade of Aleppo and Adana, 1904.

Decreased imports at Alexandretta, owing to deficit in manufactured cotton and other goods from the United Kingdom, Italy, &c.

Tables of imports and exports at the ports of Alexandretta and Mersina with remarks as to the character of the trade.

This publication contains also a report by the British Vice-Consul at Adana, in which the activity of British traders is noted.

No. 3,364. Trade of Wuku, 1904.

Total trade second highest on record, owing to good rice year.

Large importation of copper for the mint. Increased import of cotton yarn expected, in place of cotton piece goods.

General growth of the port.

Trade statistics.

INFORMATION ON TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

Information on the subjects named in the notice on the cover will be found in the following Board of Trade publications, obtainable in London upon application to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W., and their Sub-Agents, Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, at the prices named, viz.:—

1	"Board of Trade Journal," 3rd September, 1903, pp. 448–61, 5th May, 1904, p. 216, 4th August, 1904, p. 212, 10th November, 1904, pp. 265-6, 9th February, 1905, p. 259, 30th March, 1905, p. 596, 6th April, 1905, pp. 25-6, and p. 255 of the present issue, at 1*d.* per number.	
	Differential Duties Return (Cd. 2,394) at 1*s.* 6*d.*	
2	Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom, 51st number (Cd. 2,192) at 1*s.* 3*d.*	pp. 28/29
3		p. 12
4		pp. 176/191
5		pp. 57/157

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Government Publications.

5 Monthly Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation (25. III) at 1*s.* 1*d.*
Annual Statement of Trade, 1903.
Vol. I. (Cd. 2,043) at 7*s.* 1*d.* ... pp. 166 *et seq.*
Annual Statement of Trade, 1903.
Vol. II. (Cd. 2,081) at 5*s.* ... pp. 177/453

6 Annual Abstract of Labour Statistics, pp. 176/182
7 9th No. (Cd. 1,755) at 1*s.* ... pp. 34/72

7 Report on Changes in Rates of Wages and Hours of Labour (Cd. 2,199), at 7*d.*

8 Colonial Import Duties Return (Cd. 2,185) 2*s.* 1*d.*

9 Canada (Preferential Tariff for goods from the United Kingdom), No. 310, at ½*d.*

10 Statistical Abstract for the Colonial and other Possessions of the United Kingdom, 41st No. (Cd. 1,912) at 1*s.* 10*d.* ... ... pp. 38/243
Statistical Abstract for the British Empire, 1st No. (Cd. 2.395) at 6*d.* ... ... pp. 3/45
Trade (Colonies and the United Kingdom) ...No. 262, 2*d.*
Trade (Colonies and Foreign Countries) ... ...No. 110, 2*d.*

11 Foreign Import Duties Return (Cd. 2,340) at 2*s.*
New German Tariff as modified by Treaties (Cd. 2,414) at 1*s.* 10*d.*

12 Statistical Abstract for the principal and other foreign countries, 30th number (Cd. 2,202) at 1*s.* 6*d.* ... ... pp. 44/217

13 Trade between the United Kingdom and Germany (131) at 1½*d.*

14 Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry, and Commerce in the United Kingdom and some leading foreign countries (Cd. 1,199) at 5½*d.*

15 British and Foreign Trade and Industry. Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts (Cd. 1,761) at 3*s.* 6*d.*
British and Foreign Trade and Industry (Second Series). Second Series of Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts (Cd. 2,337) at 3*s.* 6*d.*

16 Naval Expenditure and Mercantile Marine (Great Britain, &c.) (284) at 1*d.*

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Among the branches of work now carried on by the Imperial Institute at South Kensington are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which is exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Imperial Institute Bulletin," issued quarterly, contains information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

March, 1905.

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SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

March, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

To Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

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Agricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. ... 22
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Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.)

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
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Ammunition Manufacturers—
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Anti-friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
The Atlas Metal & Alloys Co., Ltd., 52, Queen Victoria Street, E.C. ...

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E.

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife Bros. & Lilley, 318, Broad Street, Birmingham

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Bags and Sacks—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool 15

Barrels, Casks, Shooks, &c.—
Rankin, G. & J., Ltd., 2/4, Houlgrove St., Liverpool...

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton ... ...

Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. ...

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham... ...
Evered & Co., London and Birmingham ... ...
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C.
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Bellows—
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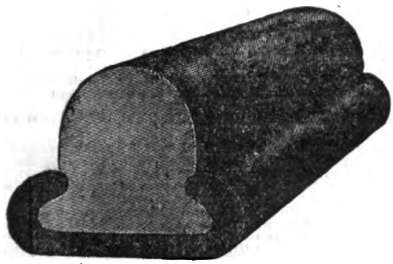

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AREA, etc.—The present BUTE DOCKS are 111 acres in extent, and vessels loading up to 12,000 tons regularly trade there. The NEW SOUTH DOCK, which is rapidly approaching completion, will have a water area of 50 acres. It is 2,550 feet in length, 800 feet in breadth, and 50 feet in depth from the coping; and will be capable of accommodating the LARGEST VESSELS AFLOAT. The Sea Lock will be 850 FEET IN LENGTH, and 90 FEET IN BREADTH, with a depth of water over the cill of 42 FEET at ordinary spring tides, and 32 FEET at ordinary neap tides. Two Large Graving Docks, up to 850 FEET IN LENGTH, and entered from THE DOCK, are about to be constructed.

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Special attention may be drawn to the NEW 70-TON CRANE in the ROATH DOCK, thus enabling THE CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY to ship or unship THE HEAVIEST WEIGHTS.

COAL SHIPPING FACILITIES.—Coal is being shipped at these Docks by the ordinary Fixed, as well as Moveable Staiths; as also by the LEWIS-HUNTER PATENT COALING CRANES. The Cardiff Railway Company have the EXCLUSIVE use in the Bristol Channel of the LEWIS HUNTER Coaling Cranes, which have proved by far the most satisfactory appliances for shipping Welsh Coal, with dispatch and the Least Possible Breakage. Colliery screened coal shipped by these cranes being equal to double screened coal shipped by ordinary Staiths, and thereby ensuring to the purchaser an INCREASED VALUE OF AT LEAST ONE SHILLING per ton over that of coal put on board by shipping appliances at other Docks, besides ensuring great SAVING IN BREAKAGE and uniformity of distribution throughout the cargo of any small coal that might exist; thus minimising any risk of spontaneous ignition from small coal in cargoes bound for distant ports. THREE OR MORE CRANES can be worked simultaneously into one vessel, and as much as 330 TONS have been shipped by one crane in an hour, and 4,773 TONS have been shipped into a vessel in 10 HOURS. Shippers attach so much importance to the advantages of these Cranes that they frequently elect to wait some time for a CRANE BERTH rather than have their coal shipped by the usual staiths.

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FACILITIES FOR SHIP REPAIRS, etc.—There are 10 PRIVATE GRAVING AND FLOATING DOCKS, ranging up to 800 feet in length, with SEPARATE PROPRIETARIES, and one PUBLIC GRAVING DOCK 600 FEET in length. There are also several MARINE ENGINEERING FIRMS, thus giving Shipowners an opportunity of obtaining tenders for repairs of every description.

RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION.—CARDIFF is the NATURAL PORT for BIRMINGHAM and the MIDLAND DISTRICT, as the London & North Western, Midland, and Great Western Railway Companies have direct communication from the Ship's Side.

DOCK CHARGES.—These are much below the average of our Great Ports. Vessels can generally procure an outward cargo to any PORT in the WORLD, thus giving the Bute Docks an advantage for Imports, as vessels do not require to change Ports.

TRADE.—The BUTE DOCKS were opened in the year 1839, and the IMPORTS and EXPORTS in 1902 were as follows:—Imports, 2,117,510 TONS; Exports, 7,684,087 TONS; Total, 9,801,597 TONS.

CATTLE IMPORTATION.—The BUTE DOCKS are the ONLY DOCKS in South Wales which have permission from the BOARD OF TRADE to land FOREIGN CATTLE. Excellent CATTLE LAIRS, SLAUGHTER HOUSES, and CHILL ROOMS are erected adjacent to the Wharf in the deepest-water dock, with Railways leading into them, having communication with all PARTS.

COLD STORAGE.—Ample Accommodation of the most modern description is provided for the storage of dead meat, poultry, provisions, vegetables, &c.

STATUS OF CARDIFF.—CARDIFF now occupies the position of being the FIRST PORT in the UNITED KINGDOM for shipping cleared to FOREIGN COUNTRIES and BRITISH POSSESSIONS and the PREMIER PORT in the WORLD for the SHIPMENT OF COAL.

NOTE.—The Bute Docks are the only Docks situated in the Town of Cardiff. Vessels using the Bute Docks thereby save their owners and Captains from loss of time in making journeys between the Vessels and the Merchants' and Brokers' Offices, Banks, Custom House, Post Office, &c., all of which Offices are adjacent to the Bute Docks.

The fullest information on all matters will be readily granted on application to the

CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY, BUTE DOCKS, CARDIFF.

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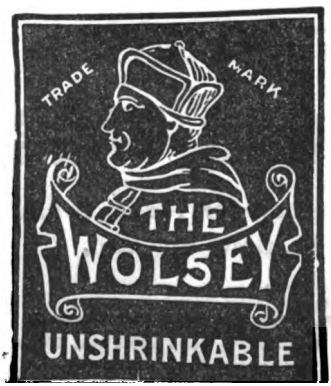

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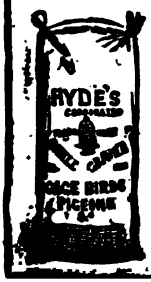

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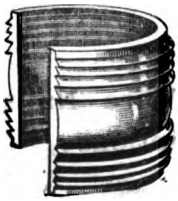

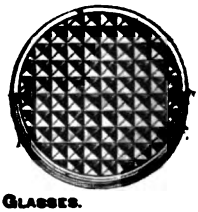

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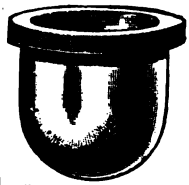

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THE Board of Trade Journal

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

MAY 18, 1905.

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GLOUCESTER. — May 27th.—For the supply of about 33,000 tons of gas coal for one year from July 1st, in such monthly quantities as may be required, for the Gloucester Gaslight Company. Forms may be obtained of Mr. William E. Vinson, Secretary, Gas Offices, Gloucester.

LLANDUDNO.—June 2nd.—For supply of 7,000 tons of best screened gas coal, capable of producing a minimum of 10,000 cubic feet of 18-candle gas per ton, to be delivered carriage paid between July 1st next and June 30th 1906, at the Llandudno Station of the London and North Western Railway, in such quantities and at such periods as may be ordered from time to time, for the Llandudno Urban District Council. Forms may be obtained on application to Mr. Alfred Conolly, Clerk, Town Hall, Llandudno.

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Sealed tenders, addressed to me and endorsed "Tenders for Outfall Works," to be delivered not later than the 26th day of May.

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ARTHUR ELLIS,
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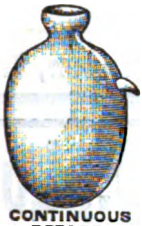

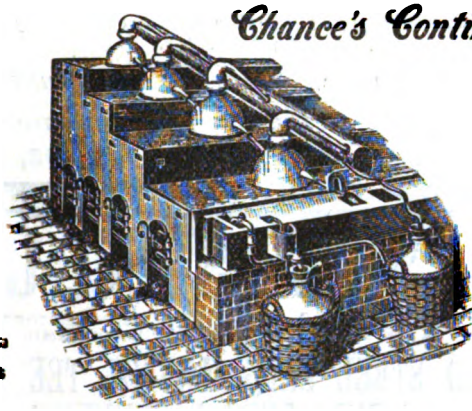

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MAY 18TH, 1905.

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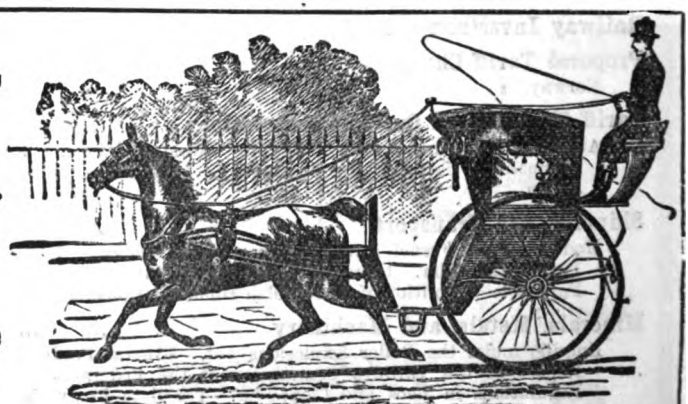

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLIX.] May 18, 1905. [No. 442

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 333.

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 334.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: WAR OFFICE.

Hospital and Prison Supplies.

Sealed tenders for the supply of milk, eggs, butter, fowls, vegetables, fish, liquors, and groceries, for military hospitals and prisons at stations not otherwise provided for, during three years from 1st July, 1905, will be received until noon, on Monday, the 5th day of June, 1905, by the General Officers Commanding the undermentioned districts:—

Aldershot Army Corps Command ...	... Aldershot.
Southern Command 4th Division ...	... Tidworth House, Andover.
Portsmouth Coast Defences ...	... Portsmouth.
Plymouth Coast Defences ...	... Devonport.

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Openings for British Trade.

Eastern Command	5th Division	Dover.
	6th Division	Colchester.
	Thames and Medway Defences	Chatham.
	Woolwich District ...	Woolwich.
Irish Command	7th Division	Curragh.
	8th Division	Cork.
	Belfast District ...	Belfast.
Scottish Command		Edinburgh.
Northern Command		York.
Welsh and Midland Command		Chester.
London District		23, Carlton House, Terrace, S.W.
Guernsey and Alderney District		Guernsey.
Jersey District		Jersey.

Forms of tender and conditions of contracts may be obtained on application at the above-named Head Quarter Offices, by letter addressed to the Officer Commanding, Army Service Corps, or in person between the hours of ten and four o'clock.

The tenders must be properly filled up, signed, and dated; and no tender will be noticed unless delivered upon the proper form, in time, at the above-named Head Quarter Offices, under sealed envelope, marked "Tender" on the outside.

BRITISH INDIA.

Irrigation Works.

The following particulars of two irrigation schemes sanctioned by the Secretary of State for India are published on the authority of the India Office:—

The first is a project estimated to cost Rs. 18,60,000, including indirect charges, for irrigating Divi Island at the mouth of the River Kistna in the Madras Presidency by raising water from the river by means of centrifugal pumps driven by Diesel oil engines.

The second scheme is for the construction, at a cost of over 40 lakhs of rupees, of a canal from the Dassan River in the Hamirpur district of the United Provinces, a distance of 20½ miles, with branches to Jalalpur and Mandha, 28½ miles and 14½ miles respectively in length, and with a system of tributaries whose total length is estimated at 210 miles.

Metals.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of:—

Metals (antimony, brass, copper, lead and zinc),

as per specifications to be seen at the Company's offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary marked "Tender for Metals," not later than noon, on Wednesday the 24th May.

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

Agricultural Machinery.

The United States Consul-General at Calcutta in a recent report writes as follows:—

"My attention has been called to the slow and wasteful harvesting in India. The thrashing is done by hand, or by bullocks treading out the grain, and the winnowing is done by hand. Both processes are slow and wasteful. Thrashing and winnowing machines adapted to this country, capable of being moved from place to place, as farms are small, would I think, prove a great success. Some of our manufacturers of agricultural machines should send experts here to study the situation. If economy in harvesting were introduced much larger crops could be raised and saved. It would seem to be a simple thing for our manufacturers to take advantage of the conditions here and to reap a rich harvest for themselves."

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A newly established London firm of produce and provision merchants wish to be placed in communication with Canadian shippers of butter, cheese, eggs, poultry, apples and potatoes.

A company manufacturing felt of the qualities used by boot and shoe manufacturers wish to develop trade in Canada.

A firm dealing in umbrella and stick materials are willing to place large orders for wooden moulds suitable for umbrella tassels, and ask to be placed in communication with Canadian manufacturers that can supply such goods.

A manufacturer of string matting and flax and jute twines and lines is prepared to appoint a Canadian resident agent.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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Openings for British Trade.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Asbestos Rope Fibre.

The Canadian Commercial Agent at Melbourne (Mr. D. H. Ross) reports that quite a large business is being done in Victoria in white asbestos rope fibre. It is made of an asbestos hose filled with silicate, and can be quickly adjusted without preparation by any workman. The sizes in demand are ⅝-in., ¾-in., 1-in., 1¼-in. and 1½-in., the lengths in each case being 100 feet. One importing house in Melbourne will, says Mr. Ross, order, about the end of this month (May), over 40,000 feet of asbestos rope fibre in assorted sizes.

Asbestos Pipe Covering.

Mr. Ross also reports that in some of the Australian States there is a limited demand for prepared asbestos pipe for covering steam pipes. It is not, however, in general use, as owing to its bulky nature the importing charges are comparatively heavy, thus making asbestos rope fibre much more economical. In the mining districts of Western Australia there is a demand for asbestos rope covering which should be worth the attention of manufacturers of this article.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Uniform Clothing, &c.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies, acting on behalf of the Administration of the Central South African Railways, invite tenders for the supply of uniform clothing, caps, and accessories, to the Central South African Railways for three years from the 1st of July, 1905. Specifications, forms of tender, and conditions of contract, can be obtained, and patterns seen at the Crown Agents' Office, Whitehall Gardens, S.W., on payment of 1*l.* 1*s.*, which sum will be returned on receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender.

It will be a condition of the contract that the contractor shall have an agent at Johannesburg, and that he shall enter into a bond with two approved suretics for the sum of 1,000*l.* for due performance of the contract.

Tenders will be received up to noon on the 12th June, 1905, and should be enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed to the Crown Agents, and marked "Tender for Clothing."

The Crown Agents do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

ORANGE RIVER COLONY.

Electric Tramway Construction.

The "Government Gazette" of the Orange River Colony of 14th April, announces that a preliminary agreement has been entered into for the construction and running of a system of electric trams in Bloemfontein.

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Openings for British Trade.

The "Gazette," containing the terms and conditions of agreement, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

RUSSIA.

Electric Tramway Construction.

The following extract from the "Journal de St. Petersbourg" has been forwarded by the Acting British Commercial Agent in Moscow (Mr. H. M. Grove):—

"The Municipal Council of St. Petersburg "have been authorised to borrow six million "roubles from the sums belonging to the town for the construc- "tion of electric tramways.

"This loan must be paid off in three years."

Agricultural Machinery.

On p. 321 will be found a reference to an exhibition of products of Russian rural industry, to be held at St. Petersburg.

GERMANY.

Herrings.

H.M. Consul at Stettin (Mr. R. Bernal), in his report for 1904, remarks that the increasing competition of Dutch and German salted herrings is a factor which should now be seriously considered by British curers. Added to this, the import of fresh herrings from Sweden assumed unusual proportions during the past season, so much so that an appreciable falling-off in the consumption of salted fish has resulted. It is to be foreseen that this trade will continue to increase and will also have to be reckoned with.

The Norwegian Government, with a view to protecting and fostering the herring trade, has appointed an inspector to reside in Hamburg, and when necessary to visit the German ports; this official, together with another from Norway, was lately in Stettin. Importers complain that Scottish exporters insist on payment being made before the goods are received or it has been possible to examine the goods; Dutch and German exporters, on the contrary, allow an examination to be made in Stettin before payment is made, and the buyer can refuse the goods if not up to contract. This doubtless tends to increase the demand for Dutch and German herrings to the detriment of the Scottish product. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,358.)

BELGIUM.

Canal Lock Construction.

With reference to the notice on p. 52 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 13th April respecting tenders for the construction of six locks on the Charleroi-Brussels canal, it appears from a notice pub-

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Openings for British Trade.

BELGIUM—*continued.*

lished in the "Bulletin Commercial" that tenders for this work will be opened on the 27th May at the "Bureau du service spécial des canaux houillers, 4, rue de Lausanne, Saint-Gilles, Brussels." Tenders should be posted not later than the 23rd May. Specifications (price 1 franc) may be obtained from "M. Gerard, 54, rue Capouillet, Saint-Gilles, Brussels."

Coal.

The "Bulletin Commercial" of 13th May contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on the 31st May, at the "Bourse de Commerce," Brussels, for the supply during the third quarter of 1905 of six lots of coal or briquettes, of from 1,900 to 3,000 tons each, for the use of the various establishments of the Belgian Navy at Ostend. A deposit of 4,000 fr. (about 160*l.*) is required for each lot. Specifications (cahier des charges spécial No. 8 of 1905) may be obtained from the "Administration de la Marine," Brussels.

The same issue of the "Bulletin" contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on the 29th May, at the "Direction du Service Spécial de l'Escaut Maritime, Antwerp," for the supply during the twelve months ended 30th April, 1906, of coal briquettes for steamboats. Tenders must be posted not later than the 25th May, a deposit of 500 fr. (about 25*l.*) being requisite. Specifications (No. 54, price 20c.) may be obtained from the above address.

[See p. 147 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 27th April last, for a notice as to the general conditions governing Belgian Government contracts.]

Railway Plant.

The "Bulletin Commercial" also contains a notice issued by the "Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux," inviting tenders, which will be opened on 7th June, for the construction of a railway between Ittre and Virginal, at the estimated cost of 199,103 frs. (about 7,964*l.*). A deposit of 20,000 frs. (about 800*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Tenders, in sealed envelopes, should be addressed to the General Manager of the Company, at 14, Rue de la Science, Brussels, where specifications, plans, &c., may be inspected. A copy of the specifications may be obtained on payment of 1 franc.

Railway Plant.

The "Bulletin" further announces that the "Société Nationale des Chemins de Fer Vicinaux, 14, rue de la Science, Brussels," invite tenders, which will be opened on 14th June, for the construction of a railway between Leffinghe and Dixmude, at the estimated

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Openings for British Trade.

BELGIUM—*continued.*

cost of 232,801 fr. (about 9,312*l.*). Tenders, addressed to the General Manager at the above address, must be received not later than 13th June; a deposit of 23,000 fr. (about 920*l.*) is required to qualify any tenders. Specifications may be obtained on payment of 1 fr.

SPAIN.

Electric Tramway Plant.

With reference to the notice on p. 54 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 13th April, respecting tenders for an electric tramway concession in Madrid, on terms more favourable than those offered by the Madrid Eastern Tramways Company, it is noted that the "Gaceta de Madrid" of 4th May publishes a notice to the effect that, no such tenders having been received, the concession has been granted to that company.

Telegraph Wire.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 5th May contains a notice to the effect that tenders will be opened at the offices of the Director-General of the Telegraph Department, Carretas, 10, Madrid, 30 days after the publication of the notice, for the supply of 50 tons of galvanised iron wire, four millimetres in diameter, and 5 tons of bronze wire, four millimetres in diameter. The maximum price at which tenders will be received is 1,580 pesetas (about 47*l.*) per ton for galvanised iron wire, and 3,400 pesetas (about 10*l.*) per ton for bronze wire. A deposit of 5 per cent. of the value of the goods at the upset price is required to qualify any tender.

Electric Tramway Plant.

With reference to the notice on p. 249 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th February as to tenders for an electric tramway concession in Madrid on terms more favourable than those offered by the "Compañia Eléctrica Madrileña de Traccion," it is noted that the "Gaceta de Madrid" of 11th May publishes a notice to the effect that, no such tenders having been received, the concession has been granted to that company.

Railway Plant.

The same issue of the "Gaceta" contains a notice calling for tenders, which will be opened 30 days after the publication of the notice in the office of the Port Works Board, Melilla, for the supply of the plant and rolling stock needed for the construction of a railway from the quarry supplying the stone for these works, in accordance with conditions to be seen at the above-mentioned offices. A deposit of 10,000 pesetas (about 301*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

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Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

Drainage Works.

The "Gaceta" of 12th May contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on the 21st June simultaneously at the "Casas Consistoriales," Barcelona, and the Directorate-General of Municipal Administration, Madrid, for carrying out the first section of the drainage works in Districts Nos. 3 and 4, Barcelona, at the upset price of 182,402 pesetas (about 5,505*l.*), in accordance with the conditions on view at the above-mentioned offices. A deposit of 9,120 pesetas (about 275*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

The "Gaceta" of 13th May contains a notice inviting tenders which will be opened at the same offices on 23rd June, for carrying out the second section of the drainage works in these Districts, at the upset price of 171,189 pesetas (about 5,167*l.*). A deposit of 8,559 pesetas (about 258*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

The "Gaceta" of 14th May contains a notice inviting tenders for the carrying out of the third section of these drainage works, at the upset price of 149,466 pesetas (about 4,511*l.*). Tenders will be opened on the 24th June, a deposit of 7,473 pesetas (about 225*l.*) being required to qualify any tender.

N.B.—It is notified from H.M. Embassy at Madrid that a foreigner, when entering into contracts for the performance of public works in Spain, must renounce by public act all rights to which he might be entitled by virtue of the law of his own country in so far as his contract is concerned, and accept any administrative decisions that may be issued respecting questions arising from that contract.

In entering into such contracts a local agent is a practical necessity.

Jute Sacking.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 13th May contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened at 11 a.m. on the 2nd June at the office of the Director of Army Service Administration, Docks Barracks, Madrid, for the supply of 65,100 metres of jute sacking for use in the Army flour mills, in accordance with conditions on view at the above-mentioned office. A deposit of 1,269 pesetas (about 38*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

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Openings for British Trade.

ITALY.

Railway Construction.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) of 4th May reports that the Genoa Chamber of Commerce have unanimously voted a subsidy of 1,000,000 lire (about 40,000*l.*) to be assigned to any firm constructing a direct railway line between Genoa and Milan, according to the scheme which shall appear most suitable and practicable.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Corsets in Hungary.

The United States Consul-General at Budapest reports that although that city has about 50 corset makers, Hungary (including Croatia-Slavonia and Fiume) imported 205,028 lbs. of corsets in 1904, valued at about 37,000*l.*, mostly from Austria, the rest from Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, and Great Britain.

PERSIA.

Irrigation Works.

H.M. Consul at Mohammerah, in his recent report, states that a Dutch engineer, on behalf of the Persian Government, is making preliminary investigations for a barrage and irrigation scheme at Ahwaz. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,360.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Direct Import Trade with Galveston.

An extract from the report of H.M. Consul at Galveston is quoted on p. 302, in which it is noted that an effort is being made to encourage direct imports from abroad to Galveston and New Orleans. A list of the principal articles imported into Galveston from the United Kingdom during the last three years is given in the report referred to.

MEXICO.

Hydro-electric Plant.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico, of 22nd April, notifies an application by Señores A. Velasco, S. en C., for an appropriation of water from Lakes Tacatzcuaro, Magdalena, and San Juanico, District of Zapotlán, State of Jalisco, for irrigation and industrial purposes.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRAZIL.

Machinery and Tools.

The Brazilian "Diario Official" of 16th April contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply of machinery and tools to the Locomotive Department of the Central Railway of Brazil, in accordance with specifications which can be seen at the offices of this railway in Rio de Janeiro. Tenders have to be presented in Rio de Janeiro by noon on 16th June, a deposit of 1,000 milreis (about 112*l.*) being required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

Building Construction.

The "Diario Official" of 23rd April contains a Decree authorising the expenditure of 100,000 milreis (about 11,250*l.*) by the Minister of Finance on the reconstruction of the building in Rio de Janeiro occupied by the Society for the Promotion of the Fine Arts.

PERU.

Public Works.

The British Vice-Consul at Iquitos (Mr. D. Cazes) announces, in his recent report, that funds are being collected for building a hospital, which it is estimated will cost 10,000*l.* The following important works are to be put in hand in the immediate future:—Wireless telegraphy from Iquitos to Puerto Bermudez on the River Pachitea, whence there is a land wire to Lima; the installation of electric light in the town; a light railway from Cerro de Pasco to some favourable point on the River Marañon, making a voyage from Iquitos to the Pacific coast possible in ten days or less. This latter scheme is part of a concession granted to an American company (the Pacific Company), and it is calculated that the line will be ready in about six years. An expert engineer has also been commissioned by the Supreme Government to make a study of the question of drainage and the water supply of the town. On receipt of his report, and after his plans have been approved, works in connection with both these matters will be commenced immediately. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,355.)

CHINA.

Agricultural Implements.

In his report on the trade of Newchwang for 1904, H.M. Consul at that port (Mr. H. A. Little) writes:—

"Contrary to what is the case in most parts of China, farming is carried on in Manchuria on a comparatively large scale, the average size of the holdings being 100 to 200 acres, extending occasionally to 1,000 acres. A native recently told me he once travelled by cart from Kirin southwards from early in the morning till late in the afternoon,

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Openings for British Trade.

CHINA—*continued.*

passing the whole time through a single estate. There is, therefore, ample scope for the use of labour-saving implements, for which a demand is likely to arise after the war. . . . The demand is likely to be stimulated by the scarcity of draught animals, from which farmers will be sure to suffer owing to the large numbers used up in the war.

Stoves.

"Here, in Newchwang, Chinese are beginning to take to foreign stoves for heating their houses and their use is likely to extend, in which case there might be a big market for these goods, as the winter in Manchuria is long and very cold. For the past year or two a native has been making small stoves of a foreign pattern, weighing about 50 and 70 lbs., and costing 5 and 7 dols. respectively, and I am told his annual sale has amounted to about 1,000. This year the demand has greatly increased, owing partly no doubt to the needs of the large number of Japanese who have come in, and he recently had in hand orders for 5,000, besides refusing many which he could not execute. The material used is old iron from abroad."

Sewing Machines.

"In recent years sewing machines have been coming into favour in all parts of China, and their use will certainly greatly extend as, although the cost of a machine is about equal to the wages of one man for a year, the saving in labour is equal to the pay of 4 to 10 men according to the work done. In Newchwang I estimate there are about 100 in use, pretty well every tailor's shop being provided with one, and in the last few months of the year one firm here sold about 100, mostly for places in the theatre of war, where the needs of the troops have given the tailors much employment, and so created a demand for labour-saving appliances. It is to be noted that foreign thread should be supplied with the machines as native thread is too coarse and not strong enough.

Iron Anchors, Cables, Bolts, Nails, &c.

"Amongst other things for which there seems a good opening are iron anchors, which are sold at 5c. (1*d.* to 1¼*d.*) a catty (1·33 lbs. av.), the raw material being imported at 3c. and made up here (Newchwang), chain and hemp cables, bolts, nails, and cart-making materials. As there are supposed to be 20,000 boats plying on this river, and thousands of carts enter the port every year with produce from the interior, there must be a very large consumption of these articles or native substitutes therefor." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,354.)

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Openings for British Trade.

CHINA—*continued.*

Paper.

The United States Consul at Hangchow calls the attention of paper manufacturers to the notable fact that this port, which is one of the paper-exporting points in China, and which has been the centre of a paper-making district for centuries, is importing about two-thirds as much paper, in value, as it exports.

About half the imported paper has been unsized and uncalendered news print of a grade similar, though rather inferior, to the paper sold to newspapers in the United States, and about half has been a sized light weight book paper of medium quality. The inferior news paper has been coming from Japan. Both varieties have been brought in in sizes suitable for small newspaper and pamphlet work.

The Consul is of opinion that the prices at which paper of good quality sells are such that paper manufacturers ought to be able to sell first-class paper at a fair profit. The number of newspapers of all languages printed in China is constantly increasing, and as the increase comes the inability of the natives to manufacture suitable paper in the required quantities at reasonable rates will become more and more apparent.

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS.

RUSSIA.

Electro-Technical Exhibition at Kiev.

A despatch has been received, through the Foreign Office, from H.M. Consul-General at Odessa (Mr. C. S. Smith), announcing the conditions under which electrical appliances will be admitted duty free into Russia to be shown at the Electro-Technical Exhibition at Kiev, at Easter, 1906.

Security to the amount of the Customs duty will have to be deposited, which will be returned on re-exportation of the articles not later than three months after the close of the exhibition. The articles are to be re-exported by way of those same Custom-houses through which they entered.

Exhibition of Skins, Furs, Feathers, &c., at St. Petersburg.

The Acting British Commercial Agent at Moscow (Mr. H. M. Grove) reports that the Imperial Russian Technical Society are arranging in St. Petersburg, during 1905-6, for the first international exhibition of skins, furs, feathers and articles manufactured from the same.

Foreign exhibits will be admitted free of Customs duty, on condition of the same being sent out of Russia within two months of the closing of the exhibition.

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Openings for British Trade.

BELGIUM.

Naval Exhibition at Antwerp.

Under the management of a Committee composed of delegates from the Belgian Government, the City of Antwerp, the Chamber of Commerce and the Marine Federation, a Naval Exhibition is to be held at the Royal Athenæum, Antwerp, from 13th August to the 1st October next.

The exhibition aims to show the evolution of navigation, and will include everything connected with the merchant marine: models, charts, maps, plans of harbours and dry docks, &c.

No fees are demanded, and the Committee undertake the care and return of all exhibits, and will pay all freight charges.

A copy of a circular issued by the Committee may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

FRANCE.

International Exhibition and Congress of Dairy Trades in 1905.

The French "Journal Officiel" of 14th May contains a Decree authorising the Ministry of Agriculture to expend 43,000 francs (about 1,720*l.*) in connection with an International Exhibition and Congress of Dairy Trades in 1905.

STATE OF SIEGE IN FORMOSA.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, copy of a telegram from H.M. Minister at Tokio, in which he states that, by a Japanese Imperial Ordinance promulgated on 12th May it is declared that the whole of Formosa, except the Pescadores and the surrounding sea, are determined to be a war zone, and that a state of siege exists from the date of the promulgation of the Ordinance.

It is added that the Governor-General of Formosa, or, in his absence, the Officer Commanding the troops, is made the Officer Commanding the area in question.

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ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.

The Board of Trade Advisory Committee for the Imperial Institute met on the 10th May, at the Offices of the Board of Trade, Lord James of Hereford, G.C.V.O., being in the chair.

There were also present Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G.C.M.G., Lord Allerton, Sir Alfred Bateman, K.C.M.G., Mr. H. Llewellyn Smith, C.B., Sir Cecil Clementi-Smith, G.C.M.G., General Sir Owen Burne, G.C.I.E., Sir Thomas Elliott, K.C.B., Mr. T. W. Holderness, C.S.I., and Mr. A. Wilson Fox, C.B., the Honorary Secretary.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Sir Cecil Clementi-Smith, the following resolution was unanimously passed:—"That "the members of the Advisory Committee of the Imperial Institute "desire to place upon record their sense of the great loss sus-"tained by the death of Sir Robert Herbert. From the founda-"tion of the Institute Sir Robert Herbert had been one of the "most strenuous members of its Governing Body, and was ever "ready to render invaluable service in the conduct of its affairs."

Reports of the work done by various departments of the Imperial Institute were considered by the Committee. They showed that during the first three months of the present year 41 requests for investigations had been received by the Scientific and Technical Department mainly from India, British Colonies and Protectorates and various Departments of the Imperial Government, compared with 28 requests during the same quarter of 1904. During the three months 37 reports were completed, and 96 are still in progress. Further progress has been made in the re-arrangement and labelling of the Indian and Colonial Collections, which were visited by 21,943 persons during the quarter under review. It is intended shortly to open an Exhibition illustrating British Cotton Cultivation and the commercial uses of cotton, to be held in conjunction with the British Cotton Growing Association, which has offered to contribute towards the expense. [See "Board of Trade Journal" of 11th May, p. 245.]

BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Chicago.—Alluding to methods of increasing trade in his district, H.M. Consul at Chicago (Mr. Alex. Finn) remarks that his Consulate has on many occasions asked for names of persons in the United Kingdom wishing to export many different kinds of articles, but has seldom received a reply. When an answer is received or an enquiry made from the United Kingdom, the name of the firm in Chicago is sent to the person in the United Kingdom, and a copy of the letter from the United Kingdom sent to the person

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British Trade Abroad.

selected; and afterwards the Consulate endeavours to keep in touch with the local firm so as to know what, if any, business is done, and if not, the reason why.

In several cases, however, a fair trade has been built up in this way in the last year, and much more could be done if the British merchant could see his way to adopting some American methods as regards his trade with the United States and through it with Canada.

One of these, suggests Mr. Finn, is by appointing a resident business man as agent on commission, and the other by employing someone as a sole representative.

In the first case the question occurs as to what sort of man to entrust the business to, and many give their agency to a large wholesale firm. In almost every line of business in the United States the wholesale house is often interested in a retail business, and is inclined to reserve some of the best things for their own retail trade. Mr. Finn considers that, in many ways, a man who is in business in a smaller way, interested in selling on commission or otherwise several different articles, is the most satisfactory man to make an agreement with, but he cannot be expected to do any advertising out of his profit, so that this should be arranged for by the manufacturer. This advertising also helps the sale of the article by the retailer, thus increasing the demand in two ways at one expense.

When arranging with an agent to try and dispose of imported goods in the United States, especially if the article is one that may have a large sale, the exporter should give the agent the best possible terms to begin with in order to encourage him in his struggle, and not say, as was done lately in a case of this kind, "when you are doing a good business with us we shall be willing to make you much better terms."

In sending or employing a salaried man who will attend to the exporter's business alone, it is absolutely necessary to employ someone who understands the country and give him some money to spend. This is the usual custom in the United States, and while it is no longer customary to give large sums to those interested in giving contracts or large buyers, the salesman who has to deal with retailers finds it necessary to have some funds at his disposal, so as to be able to make himself agreeable to probable customers.

The Consul remarks further that the American believes in advertising and uses it to the utmost. It is impossible for the British manufacturer to hold his own, to say nothing of increasing his trade, on the American Continent unless he adopts the same system as his rivals. There are many British goods, which, if advertised in the United States in the same manner as the competing American product, would, because of their superiority,

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British Trade Abroad.

soon obtain a hold on the market and give good returns to the advertisers. This trade can be got, as is shown by a well-known and well-advertised soap that has an enormous sale and holds its place, notwithstanding the fact that its price is about three times that of its competitors.

America is a large Continent, and to advertise widely is very expensive when compared with advertising in the United Kingdom, but one district can be taken hold of and then others added as business comes in.

British manufacturers will also find that their wares must be brought before the American public through the different papers and magazines read by the buyers, and that advertisements in British trade papers have little or no effect in the United States, as they are only consulted when something definite is wanted and for which no substitute is to be found in the pages ordinarily consulted. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,349.)

Galveston.—In his report on the trade of Texas for 1904, H.M. Consul at Galveston (Mr. H. D. Nugent) remarks that, under present conditions, importers find it more satisfactory either to buy their goods from the large jobbing houses in New York, or to enter them at New York and to transfer them to coastwise vessels bound to Galveston, the rates being the same as for direct shipments and the sailings regular, thus insuring delivery at a set time.

Owing, however, to some proposals recently made by the Gould system of railways, controlling some 18,000 miles of line, chiefly to the west of the Mississippi, an effort is to be made to encourage direct imports from abroad to Galveston and New Orleans.

The following table gives the values of the imports direct into Galveston for the last five years :—

Year.	Total Value of Foreign Imports.	Value of Imports.			
		From United Kingdom and Colonies.	From Germany.	From France.	From Belgium.
	£	£	£	£	£
1900	288,016	92,614	30,416	8,212	37,020
1901	268,052	118,705	35,675	8,084	28,922
1902	543,468	278,597	82,513	9,978	81,805
1903	595,122	165,053	133,437	16,883	124,942
1904	754,581	92,874	128,320	10,203	51,536

Mr. Nugent's report, contains, for the use of those interested, a list of the principal articles imported from the United Kingdom during the last three years. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,348.)

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RUSSIAN COAL IN COMPETITION WITH ENGLISH COAL IN RUSSIA.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a memorandum by H.M. Consul at Riga (Mr. A. Woodhouse) on the subject of Russian coal in competition with English coal in Russia, from which the following has been extracted:—

According to the reports of the South Russian Mining Congress, the output of the Donetz coal fields, in the years 1900–1903 fell far short of the quantity calculated upon. The figures for each year are as follows:—

Year.	Estimated Output.	Actual Output.	Deficit.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1900	11,002,000	10,975,700	26,300
1901	13,178,000	11,022,500	2,155,500
1902	13,628,000	10,192,700	3,435,300
1903	12,870,700	11,557,000	1,313,700

And this is not all. For some years past the demand, or consumption, of Donetz coal has been in excess of the output, consequently it has been necessary to fall back upon the stocks carried over. This is shown by the figures in the following table:—

Year.	Total Output.	Consumption.	Stocks at the end of the Year.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1901	11,022,500	10,715,000	770,800
1902	10,192,700	10,330,800	632,700
1903	11,557,000	11,713,400	476,300

The Polish pits are even in a worse position for offering competition, as large quantities of coal are actually imported *viâ* Sosnowitz to cover local requirements. The following is a return of quantities received in 1900–1903:—

Imports of Coal *viâ* Sosnowitz.

1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.
Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
762,100	733,220	496,300	514,200

The full text of the memorandum may be consulted by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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RAILWAY INVESTMENTS IN JAPAN.

Adverting to the notice published on p. 161 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 28th July last, a despatch has been received, through the Foreign Office, from H.M. Minister at Tokio (Sir C. M. MacDonald, G.C.M.G., K.C.B.), stating that a number of Laws have been passed during the Session of the Diet just elapsed, which should have the result of enabling Japanese railways to offer proper security for foreign loans, and which affect, moreover, not only railways but factories and other undertakings.

Henceforward, holders of debentures, issued under the new Laws, will have a prior lien on the property, land, and plant, against which the debentures are issued, and will be able, in the event of default, either of interest or principal, to exercise their rights of foreclosure through a "Trust Company," whose functions correspond in large measure to those of the trustees for debenture holders in English practice.

It is understood that the Japanese Government intend to publish English translations of these measures, of which the most important are the "Private Railway Mortgage Law" and the "Law of Trust for secured Debentures."

PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

SWEDEN.

Any Proposals made by Government to increase Duties to take immediate effect.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a despatch from His Majesty's Minister at Stockholm reporting that the Swedish Government have submitted to the Riksdag a Bill intended to prevent the speculative dealing in commodities on which an increase of duty may be proposed by the Government. The provisions of the Bill are as follows:—

"When the King has decided to lay before the Riksdag a proposal to impose or increase a duty on coffee, sugar, tobacco, wine, or spirits, or on the manufacture of brandy or sugar, His Majesty is empowered, without waiting for the concurrence of the Riksdag, also to decree that the imposition of the proposed duty shall come into immediate force. Such a Decree must not, however, be notified at any other period than during a session of the Riksdag, or, at most, three weeks before the session opens."

It will be seen that it is not contemplated by the Bill that there shall be any restitution of duty in the event of an increase effected under a Decree being eventually rejected by the Riksdag.

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Drawbacks.

The "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" for 25th March last contains a Notice issued by the Commonwealth Department of Trade and Customs on 20th March, 1905, in accordance with the provisions of the Customs Regulations No. 131, to the following effect:—

"Drawback may be allowed in terms of the Customs regulations on the undermentioned imported materials used in the manufacture of articles within the Commonwealth, upon the exportation of such manufactured articles, and subject to certain specified conditions—

Metal parts } used in the manufacture of cycles.
Saddles }

Addition to Free Importation List.

The "Gazette" for 1st April contains a Customs By-Law, dated 29th March, 1905, notifying that the following minor articles, for use in the manufacture of furniture within the Commonwealth, may be admitted free of duty:—

Articles for Manufacture of Furniture.

Desk hinges, ¾ in. by 2¼ in. and under.
Table hinges, 3½ in. and under.
Centre or wardrobe hinges, 3½ in. and under.
Screen hinges, 3½ in. and under.

EGYPT.

Regulations respecting the Importation of Arms and Explosives.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 29th April contains the text of a Khedivial Decree respecting the importation of, and trade in, arms, ammunition, and explosives. The Decree authorises the importation of sporting arms, weapons *de luxe* (antiques, arms with chased, gilded, or silvered parts, &c.), and certain arms for trading purposes, also of parts of such arms and of ammunition therefor, as specified in a list appended to the Decree. The importation of all other arms, or parts thereof, and of explosives (including powder of all kinds, saltpetre, chlorate of potassium, dynamite, gun-cotton, nitro-glycerine, fulminates, &c.) is prohibited. The prohibition against the importation of explosives does not apply to articles which, in virtue of their composition, are explosive under certain conditions, or which may possibly be used in the manufacture of explosives, as, for example, sulphur, ether, nitrate of soda; it covers only those materials which are intended to be exclusively, or, at least, principally used as quarrying powder or for similar purposes.

The full text of the Decree may be seen by persons interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

EGYPT—*continued.*

Valuation Tariff for Certain Metals.

The "Journal Officiel" for the 29th April also contains the following revised Valuation Tariff for use in assessing import duties on certain imported metals and metal manufactures. This Tariff came into force on the 1st May, and is to remain in force until the 31st August next, or until denunciation:—

Articles.	Valuation per kilog.*	
	Former.	New.
	Millièmes.†	Millièmes.†
Copper and brass sheets, round and bottoms	73	76
" sheets, plain	70	73
" sheets in rolls, bars, round and flat	70	73
" ingots	67	70
" wire	*Ad val.*	*Ad val.*
Brass wire	"	"
" sheets, plain, 24 by 48, 8 lbs. to 5 lbs.	"	"
Tin ingots and bars...	126	130
Lead sheets	14	14
" shot	15	15
" pipe	14	14
" pig	13	13
Zinc sheets	24	25
" ingots	24	25
Phosphor bronze	100	100
Antimony	40	40
Quicksilver	270	270

Valuation Tariff for Sugar.

The same issue of the "Journal Officiel" further contains a revised Valuation Tariff for the assessment of import duties on various kinds of sugar. This Tariff, which came into force on the 29th April, and is to remain in force until the 28th June next, or until denunciation, is as follows:—

Kinds of Sugar.	Valuation per 100 kilogs.*
	Millièmes.†
Crystallised or moist, from Russia, in single or double bags (gross weight)	1,320
Crystallised or moist, from all countries other than Russia, in single or double bags (gross weight)	1,500
Powdered or centrifugal, of any origin	1,520
Crushed, of any origin	1,540
Cubes, of any origin, in boxes (net weight)	1,750
Loaves " " " " "	1,700

* Duty is levied on these valuations at the rate of 8 per cent.
† 1,000 millièmes = £E 1 = 1*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

RUSSIA—FRANCE.

Denunciation of Commercial Convention of 1893.

The French "Journal Officiel" for the 10th March states that the Russian Government have denounced the Franco-Russian Commercial Convention of the 17th June, 1893*, and that this Convention will accordingly cease to operate from the 1st March, 1906.

This denunciation does not apply to the Treaty of 1874, under which general most-favoured-nation treatment was reciprocally accorded by each country to the products, &c., of the other.

* See "Board of Trade Journal" for August, 1893, pp. 183-190.

NORWAY.

Tariff Alterations.

With further reference to the notice which appeared in the "Journal" for the 10th November last on the subject of proposed changes in the Norwegian Customs Tariff, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a telegram from H.M. Consul-General at Christiania, reporting that the Norwegian Government have decided to put into force at once, as a temporary measure, the tariff alterations proposed by an enlarged Committee, to which the proposals of the original Customs Committee specified in the notice alluded to * were referred for consideration.

With few exceptions, the proposals adopted by this enlarged Committee, and now temporarily put into force, embody the proposals of the original Customs Committee without alteration.

A list of these exceptions, with altered rates, will be published in next week's issue of the "Journal." In the meantime, a copy (in Norwegian) of the tariff now temporarily put into force may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

* *ie.*, the rates of duty contained in the last column but one of the notice which appeared on pp. 260-5 of the "Journal" for the 10th November, 1904.

GERMANY—ROUMANIA.

Ratification of Commercial Convention.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a dispatch from H.M. Minister at Bucharest, reporting that the Commercial Convention recently concluded between Germany and Roumania was ratified at Bucharest on the 25th April.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Customs Decisions.

The following is the substance of some Decisions affecting the application of the United States Customs Tariff, which have recently been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington :—

Weight of woven fabrics—scalloped articles.—In determining the weight per square yard of woven fabrics only portions of the *woven fabric* shall be taken into consideration—that is to say, only those portions which are composed of warp *and* weft threads. In determining the weight per square yard of scalloped articles, the whipped portion is not to be weighed.

Machine-scalloped work is not to be regarded as embroidery.

Trimmings and galloons.—Narrow woven fabrics, made wholly or in chief value of silk, or in part of wool, decorated with a superadded ornamentation in the nature of appliqué or embroidery, or in any other manner, are not ribbons, and are properly dutiable under the provisions for trimmings and galloons in paragraphs 390 and 371 of the Tariff respectively—at the rate of 60 per cent. *ad valorem* if of silk, and at the rate of 50 cents per lb. and 60 per cent. *ad valorem* if of wool.

Oriental stripes.—Cotton fabrics, from substantial portions of which are absent entire warp or weft threads, and in substantial portions of which the counts of warp and weft threads differ, are not within the definition of "cotton cloth" in paragraph 310 of the Tariff; such goods are accordingly not dutiable under paragraphs 304 to 309, but as manufactures of cotton under paragraph 322, at the rate of 45 per cent. *ad valorem.*

Madras curtains, madras, madras muslin, are dutiable under the provisions of paragraphs 304–9, according to weight and count, with the additions provided in paragraph 313, if figured by means of introduced threads other than the ordinary warp and weft threads.

Etamines.—The word "etamines," as used in paragraph 339 of the Tariff, refers to plain woven articles, the meshes of which have an opalescent appearance due to the use of a hard twisted thread.

Jams and marmalades—fruits preserved in sugar.—The provisions in paragraphs 262, 264, and 266 of the Tariff, for various fruits *eo nomine*, such as pears, berries, figs, plums, prunes, currants, oranges, &c., do not include those fruits when preserved in sugar, molasses, spirits, or their own juices. When so preserved, either in their original form or reduced to jams or marmalades, the fruits are dutiable under the provision in paragraph 263 for "comfits, sweetmeats, and fruits preserved in sugar, molasses, spirits, or in their own juices."

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Shooks.—Boxes made abroad from shooks of United States origin, but exported from New Brunswick, are not entitled to free entry under paragraph 483 or section 20 of the Tariff.

Post-card albums, books with guard backs, enlarged by stubs bound between the leaves for the purpose of allowing for the added thickness caused by the insertion of the matter intended to be preserved in the albums, are dutiable as "scrap albums" under paragraph 404 of the Tariff, at the rate of 35 per cent. *ad valorem.*

Foreign coins—exchange value.—Section 25 of the Tariff Act of 1894 provides that the value of imported merchandise shall be estimated on the basis of the "pure metal value" of standard foreign coins as proclaimed by the Secretary of the Treasury, this provision being followed by a proviso under which the Secretary, when satisfied "that the value in United States currency of the foreign money specified in the invoice" has varied to a certain extent from the proclaimed value, may order the reliquidation of any entry at a different value from that proclaimed. This proviso does not refer to variation in the pure metal value alone, covered by the main part of the Section, but includes also variation between such value as proclaimed and the exchange value.

When the value in United States currency of the foreign money specified in an invoice varies at the date of Consular certification at least 10 per cent. from its proclaimed value, the Secretary of the Treasury may order an assessment of duty on the basis of the *exchange value*, as specified in the invoice.

Reliquidation of Entries.—Statute of Limitations.—Section 21 of the Act of 22nd June, 1874, limits the time wherein the collector may reliquidate an entry of imported merchandise. The word "entry," as used in that Act, denotes the series of acts which make up the completed transaction necessary to the entering of imported merchandise. The statute, therefore, does not commence to run until the duties are ascertained and paid.

Velours, woven fabrics in the piece, composed of silk and cotton, silk being the component material of chief value, upon the face of which are longitudinal strips of plush or raised pile surfaces, between which are plain or ribbed surfaces, are dutiable, when weighing not more than 8 ounces per square yard as woven fabrics in the piece, under paragraph 387 of the Tariff, at the appropriate rate determined by the percentage of silk they contain, and according to whether they are dyed in the thread or yarn or dyed or printed in the piece. Similar goods, weighing over 8 ounces per square yard are dutiable as manufactures of silk, or of which silk is the component material of chief value, under paragraph 391 of the Tariff, at the rate of 50 per cent. *ad valorem.*

[This reverses a Decision published at p. 505 of the "Journal" for the 16th June, 1904, so far as regards velours weighing not more than 8 ounces per square yard.]

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Also the following—

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
		Dols. Cts.
Empty chianti wine bottles in the form of Florence flasks, fitted with a wicker covering surrounding the bulbous part of the bottle	99	40 % *ad val.*
Sugar beets imported to be manufactured into beet sugar; dutiable as vegetables in their natural state	257	25 % "
Surgeons' ligature silk, twisted	385	30 % "
" " " *braided*	389	50 % "
Embroidery floss.—Cotton thread put up in small skeins about 8 inches in length, and labelled "embroidery floss"; dutiable as "embroidery cotton"	303	100 yds. 0 00⅓
Underskirts.—Knitted cotton underskirts are dutiable as "underwear"	319	Various rates.
Sawn cherry culls	198	15 % *ad val.*
Sponges.—Manufactures of india-rubber employed as substitutes for bath sponges; dutiable as manufactures of rubber	450	30 % "
Writing paper, ruled and decorated by the lithographic process	401	lb. 0 03½ and 25 % *ad val.*
Soluble starch.—So-called soluble or thin boiling starch, consisting of potato starch somewhat modified by the action of acids or alkalies to increase its solubility, the starch granules not having been essentially altered by the treatment, and which is bought and sold as soluble starch; dutiable as "starch"	285	lb. 0 01½
Spent ginger, crushed but not ground	667	Free.
Niger-seed oil	3	25 % *ad val.*
Nickel-plated zinc sheets, dutiable under the provision for "articles or wares not specially provided for . . . . composed wholly or in part of . . . nickel . . . zinc or other metal," etc....	193	45 % "
Frozen mackerel, halibut, or salmon; dutiable as "mackerel, halibut, or salmon, *fresh*"	261	lb. 0 01
[This reverses a Decision published at p. 314 of the "Journal" for the 18th August, 1904.]		
Hats composed of horsehair and straw, horsehair being the component material of chief value; dutiable, by similitude, as hats made of silk ...	390	60 % *ad val.*
Eggs of domesticated ducks; dutiable as "eggs not specially provided for"	244	doz. 0 05
Galvanised iron sheets, valued at over 3 cents per pound	193 and 132	45 % *ad val.* and lb. 0 00 2/10
Glass pendants, prismatic in form, designed for use in the construction of chandeliers, and consisting of two pieces, one large and the other small, united by means of brass wire; dutiable as articles of glass, cut or ground	100	60 % *ad val.*
Frosted wheat.—Wheat injured by frost before it is fully ripened, but suitable for use as human food and as seed-corn	234	bushel 0 25

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Parcel Post Convention with Belgium.

A Parcel Post Convention is now in force between the United States and Belgium, the terms of which are similar to those of the Convention between the United States and Japan.* The regulations concerning the Convention with Japan are made applicable to that with Belgium.

Entry of Imported Goods by Agents, &c.

The United States Congress have recently passed an Act amending Section 2,787 of the Revised Statutes, respecting the entry of imported goods by an agent, factor, or person other than the person to whom they belong. A copy of this Act may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

New Subports of Entry, &c.

In virtue of recent Acts of the United States Congress, Texas City has been constituted a subport of entry in the Customs collection district of Galveston, and has received the privileges of ports open for the immediate transportation of dutiable merchandise; Norwalk (Conn.) has been constituted a subport of entry in the Customs collection district of Fairfield (Conn.); and Gloucester (Mass.) a port to which merchandise may be transported without appraisement.

CUBA.

Customs Decision.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a despatch from H.M. Minister at Havana, stating that the Cuban Customs Department have decided that, when articles which are subject to different rates of duty are imported in one case, each in its separate covering, with a common packing of straw, sawdust, or other material, each article is to pay duty on a proportionate part of the weight of such interior packing.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS.

Date at which Requirement of Consular Invoices will come into Force.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 117 of the "Journal" for the 20th April, on the subject of the forthcoming requirement of Consular invoices for goods imported into the Philippine Islands, attention is directed to the fact that this requirement will take effect 60 days after the coming into force of the revised Tariff, which itself came into force 60 days after the passing of the new Philippine Tariff Act.

As this Act was approved on the 3rd March last, it appears that the requirement of Consular invoices will take effect 120 days from that date, *i.e.*, on the 1st July next.

* *See* "Board of Trade Journal" for the 8th September, 1904, p. 456.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

CHILE.

Amendment of Manifests.

The Chilian "Diario Oficial" for the 13th March contains the text of a Decree, declaring that the amendment of preliminary manifests (*manifiestos por mayor*) which is permitted by Article 11 of the Customs Regulations, must be confined to correcting a mark or a number, or to rectifying the description of the contents of a package; in no case is it permitted to strike out articles mentioned therein, or to add new articles.

COLOMBIA.

Forthcoming Monopolies of Spirits, Cigarettes, Matches, &c.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a despatch from H.M. Minister at Bogota, reporting on two Presidential Decrees which have recently been issued, authorising the Government to establish monopolies of spirits, cigarettes, hides, matches, and other articles. The principal provisions of these Decrees, so far as regards imports, are as follows:—

1. *Industrial alcohol.*—The Government are authorised to grant by contract a monopoly of the manufacture and sale of industrial alcohol for use in generating power, heat, and light. The raw materials for use in the industry are to be produced in the country: only methylene and other substances used in refining are to be allowed to be imported.

2. *Spirituous beverages and liqueurs, including champagne.*—A monopoly is to be established for the production, introduction, and sale of the following articles:—

(*a*) Spirit distilled from the sugar cane, and compounds thereof;

(*b*) Brandy or cognac, whisky, champagne, chartreuse, and other liqueurs, extract of cognac and concentrated spirits for the manufacture of the beverages mentioned.

The monopoly will not apply to:—

(i.) Foreign wines, imported for consumption;

(ii.) Colouring matters, varnishes, liniments, perfumes, and other pharmaceutical or technical products containing alcohol.

The Government are authorised to grant a further special monopoly for the manufacture and sale of non-potable alcohol and alcohol containing poisonous substances.

3. *Tobacco and cigarettes.*—A consumption duty is to be levied on tobacco; while the manufacture, introduction, and sale of cigarettes are to be constituted a monopoly.

Tobacco and cigarettes are to be dutiable on importation at the following rates:—

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

COLOMBIA—*continued.*

	Dols. per kilog.
Cigarettes	3·00
Tobacco in any form except cut tobacco (*picaduras*) and cigarettes	2·50

Pending the completion of arrangements for the monopolisation of the manufacture, sale, and introduction of cigarettes, existing stocks of foreign cigarettes or of cigarettes manufactured in Colombia from imported tobacco, may be offered for sale on payment of a special tax of 1 dol. (gold) per kilog. Similarly, cigarette factories established before the date when the monopoly comes into force are to be permitted to use up existing stocks of the raw material in their possession, on payment of the above-mentioned tax on the cigarettes which they manufacture.

The Government are authorised to introduce, or to permit the introduction of, cigarettes under such conditions as they shall deem necessary.

4. *Matches.*—A monopoly is to be established of the manufacture and sale of matches; also of the importation thereof, and of the raw materials necessary for their production. The importation of matches is, however, temporarily permitted until the match factories to be established under the monopoly are in a position to supply the needs of consumers. Existing stocks of matches may, in the meantime, be offered for sale on payment of a special surtax (levied in gold) of 25 per cent. on the Customs import duty.

A complete translation of the Decrees establishing these monopolies and laying down regulations for the taking over of the present factories and plant engaged in the manufacture of the monopolised articles may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

JAPAN.

Conversion of Additional Duties from *Ad Valorem* into Specific Rates.

With reference to notices which have appeared in recent issues of the "Board of Trade Journal," relative to an increase of import duties in Japan under the "Extraordinary Special Taxes Law" of 28th December, 1904, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Japanese Imperial Ordinance, by which the *ad valorem* increases of duty enacted by the above-mentioned Law have been converted, in the case of a considerable number of articles, into specific duties, in accordance with Article III of the Customs Tariff Law.

The following statement shows, with regard to these articles (with the exception of the articles on which duties are fixed by Treaties between Japan and other Powers), the rates of duty leviable under the Tariff of 1st April, 1903, the specific equivalents of the additional *ad valorem* duties provided by the Law of 28th December, 1904, and the total rates of duty payable from the 1st July next:—

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAPAN—*continued.*

[NOTE.—*Kin* = 1·32277 *lbs avoirdupois*; *yen* = 2*s.* 0½*d.* (The cubic foot, yard, and square yard, are those of the English system; the gallon is the standard wine measure of the United States—equal to five-sixths of an Imperial gallon.)]

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rates of Duty under Tariff of 1st April, 1903.	Specific Equivalents of Increased Duties under Law of 28th Dec. 1904.	Total Rates of Duty payable from 1st July, 1905.
32	Biscuits—		Yens.	Yens.	Yens.
	Ship biscuits	kin	0·021	0·041	0·062
	Fancy biscuits	"	0·054	0·057	0·111
33	Butter	"	0·099	0·111	0·210
34	Cheese	"	0·062	0·067	0·129
35*b*	Coffee, in the bean	"	0·064	0·040	0·104
37	Eggs, fresh	100 kins	3·923	1·569	5·492
38*a*	Flour, wheaten	"	0·456	0·740	1·196
40	Ham and bacon	kin	0·065	0·071	0·136
41*a*	Mutton, fresh	100 kins	2·383	3·437	5·820
44	Salt,* sea and rock—				
	Crude	"	0·082	0·115	0·197
	Refined	"	1·768	1·632	3·400
45	Salt fish	"	0·709	0·715	1·424
46*l*	Salted beef and pork, in cask ...	"	2·020	3·127	5·147
47	Sekikasai (*gelidium corneum*) ...	"	0·590	0·803	1·393
*ex*50	Artificial butter	kin	0·057	0·059	0·116
63	Undershirts and drawers, knit—				
	Of cotton	doz.	1·642	1·359	3·001
	Of wool	"	3·525	2·701	6·226
	Of wool and cotton	"	2·165	1·560	3·725
66	Acid, carbolic	kin	0·049	0·015	0·064
68	" tartaric	"	0·065	0·031	0·096
70	Alum	100 kins	0·227	0·116	0·343
71	Antifebrin	kin	0·050	0·023	0·073
72	Antipyrine	"	0·361	0·180	0·541
74	Biakujutsu	100 kins	1·051	0·551	1·602
77	Borax (biborate of soda)	"	1·116	0·441	1·557
78	Camphor, blumea or ngai	kin	0·466	0·721	1·187
79	Cassia and cinnamon bark... ...	100 kins	0·902	0·471	1·373
80	" " oil	kin	0·158	0·074	0·232
81	Cataria, leaf of	100 kins	0·680	0·416	1·096
82	Cinchona bark	"	3·022	1·697	4·719
84	Cinnabar	kin	0·098	0·052	0·150
85	Cloves	100 kins	1·822	1·014	2·836
86	Cocain, hydrochlorate of	kin	18·498	7·599	26·097
91	Cutch and gambier	100 kins	1·131	0·654	1·785
92	Gentian	"	1·077	0·633	1·710
94	Glycerine	kin	0·035	0·017	0·052
95	Gum, arabic	100 kins	1·463	0·761	2·224
96	" benzoin	"	1·110	0·385	1·495
99	" olibanum	"	1·141	0·378	1·519
101	Iodoform	kin	0·432	0·206	0·638
102	Ipecac	100 kins	67·033	21·659	88·692
103	Jalap	"	4·279	1·920	6·199
105	Liquorice	"	0·939	0·518	1·457
106	Mawo (*Epedora vulgaris*)... ..	"	0·626	0·268	0·894
108	Morphine, hydrochlorate or sulphate of	kin	4·654	2·009	6·663

* Salt is a Government monopoly.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAPAN—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rates of Duty under Tariff of 1st April, 1903.	Specific Equivalents of Increased Duties under Law of 28th Dec., 1904.	Total Rates of Duty payable from 1st July, 1905.
			Yens.	Yens.	Yens.
109	Musk	kin	41·175	29·243	70·418
110	„ artificial	„	10·494	4·308	14·802
111	Nard or spikenard	100 kins	1·807	0·861	2·668
117	Putchuk	„	1·706	0·804	2·510
120	Rhubarb, powdered or otherwise...	„	1·392	0·726	2·118
121	Saffron	kin	1·718	0·865	2·583
123	Santonine	„	0·967	0·648	1·615
124	Sarsaparilla	100 kins	2·175	0·952	3·127
125	Semen cyna	„	1·781	1·625	3·406
126	Shellac	kin	0·043	0·037	0·080
128	Soda, bicarbonate of	100 kins	0·367	0·156	0·523
130	„ crystals or washing soda ...	„	0·423	0·207	0·630
131	„ salicylate of	kin	0·115	0·039	0·154
132	Sojutzu	100 kins	0·532	0·253	0·785
134	Vaseline	„	1·664	0·745	2·409
135	Wogon	„	0·651	0·362	1·013
136	Acid, boracic...	„	1·658	0·744	2·402
	„ acetic	kin	0·024	0·010	0·034
	„ tannic	100 kins	7·425	5·822	13·247
	Ammonium carbonate	„	2·113	0·969	3·082
	Creosote carbonate	kin	0·351	0·136	0·487
139	Blue, prepared from minerals, dry or liquid	100 kins	6·233	3·178	9·411
143	Emerald green	kin	0·035	0·018	0·053
144	Galls of all kinds	100 kins	2·892	1·398	4·290
145	Gamboge	„	5·924	4·485	10·409
148	Indigo, liquid	„	7·137	2·914	10·051
150	Lead, all colours	„	1·327	0·604	1·931
153	Mangrove bark	„	0·149	0·052	0·201
155	Safflower	„	2·498	0·926	3·424
156	Sapan-wood	„	0·234	0·093	0·327
158	Turmeric	„	0·486	0·243	0·729
159	Ultramarine	„	1·793	0·900	2·693
160	Varnish	kin	0·044	0·021	0·065
161	„ China	100 kins	4·173	2·117	6·290
163	Vermilion	kin	0·143	0·074	0·217
164	Wansho or gosu	100 kins	6·174	3·473	9·647
165	White zinc	„	1·313	0·689	2·002
166	Fustic extract	kin	0·022	0·010	0·032
173	Barley	100 kins	0·106	0·298	0·404
174*a*	Beans, soja	„	0·137	0·289	0·426
177	Sesame	„	0·250	0·523	0·773
178	Wheat	„	0·159	0·377	0·536
179*a*	Cotton seeds	„	0·068	0·067	0·135
186	Hides or skins, deer, raw, dried, salted or pickled, and undressed	„	2·121	1·504	4·025
187	Hides or skins, Samba (*Cervus elephas*), raw, dried, salted or pickled, and undressed	„	1·053	0·951	2·004
188	Hoofs, animals'	„	0·172	0·211	0·383

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAPAN—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rates of Duty under Tariff of 1st April, 1903.	Specific Equivalents of Increased Duties under Law of 28th Dec., 1904.	Total Rates of Duty payable from 1st July, 1905.
			Yens.	Yens.	Yens.
189	Horns, bull, ox, cow and buffalo ...	100 kins	0·454	0·536	0·990
190	„ deer	„	0·915	0·903	1·818
195	Ivory or teeth of walrus or sea-horse	kin	0·112	0·059	0·171
	Brass—				
203*b*	Plate and sheet	100 kins	4·748	2·173	6·921
204	Pipes and tubes	„	4·924	2·106	7·030
	Copper—				
208*a*	Bar and rod	„	5·206	2·029	7·235
208*b*	Plate and sheet	„	5·155	2·096	7·251
209	Nails	„	6·010	2·547	8·557
210	Pipes and tubes	„	5·948	2·500	8·448
	German silver—				
214	Plate, sheet, rod and wire ...	„	7·583	3·513	11·096
	Iron and mild steel—				
229*a*	Wire-rope, galvanised	„	1·280	0·744	2·024
229*b*	„ other	„	1·874	1·020	2·894
	Lead—				
233	Sheet	„	0·982	0·415	1·397
234	Pipes and tubes...	„	1·148	0·469	1·617
	Steel, other than mild steel—				
244	Wire, paragon (for umbrella ribs)...	„	2·315	1·031	3·346
245	Wire-rope, galvanised or otherwise	„	2·654	1·090	3·744
	Yellow and muntz metal—				
250	Plate and sheet	„	4·042	1·710	5·752
251	Bar and rod	„	4·244	1·712	5·956
264	Tinfoil	„	12·221	7·384	19·605
274	Oil, bean	„	0·914	0·560	1·474
275*a*	„ castor, in tins, casks, or jars ...	„	1·193	0·558	1·751
277	„ ground-nut or pea-nut	„	1·293	0·659	1·952
278	„ kerosene or petroleum... ...	gallon	0·038	0·058	0·096
280*a*	„ olive, in tins or casks	100 kins	3·043	1·556	4·599
299	Sugar, up to No. 14, inclusive, Dutch standard, in colour ...	„	0·271	1·256	1·527
302	Molasses	„	0·131	0·244	0·375
306	Bookbinders' cloth	sq. yard	0·026	0·017	0·043
339	Woollen felt	„	0·061	0·080	0·141
345	Silk crape, Chinese	„	0·277	0·169	0·446
346	„ pongee, Chinese (Kenchu) ...	„	0·058	0·035	0·093
347	„ satins, Chinese...	„	0·432	·222	0·654
348	„ „ figured, Chinese ...	„	0·285	0·145	0·430
353	Flax or linen thread	kin	0·202	0·157	0·359
360	Carpets and carpetings, felt ...	sq. yard	0·073	0·050	0·123
366	Elastic boot webbing —				
	Of silk in part	„	0·855	0·589	1·444
	All other...	„	0·470	0·288	0·758
368	Handkerchiefs—				
	Of cotton	dozen	0·068	0·066	0·134
	Of linen	„	0·291	0·291	0·582
	Of linen and cotton	„	0·180	0·250	0·430

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

JAPAN—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rates of Duty under Tariff of 1st April, 1903.	Specific Equivalents of Increased Duties under Law of 28th Dec., 1904.	Total Rates of Duty payable from 1st July, 1905.
			Yens.	Yens.	Yens.
370	Leather cloth for furniture ...	sq. yard	0·056	0·050	0·106
371	Oil cloths and linoleum cloths for floors	"	0·119	0·101	0·220
400	Aloeswood	100 kins	12·581	18·313	30·894
404	Asbestos, in sheets or boards ...	"	1·268	0·550	1·818
420	Chalk and whitening	"	0·245	0·280	0·525
424	Coke	ton	1·557	1·146	2·703
426	Cordage and ropes of flax, hemp, jute, for rigging or otherwise ...	100 kins	2·847	1·388	4·235
440	Funori (*Gleopertis intricata*) ...	"	0·286	0·258	0·544
443	Glue, common	"	0·886	0·837	1·723
446	Gypsum	"	0·064	0·053	0·117
455	Malt	"	0·581	0·510	1·091
457	Matting, China, in rolls of 40 yards	roll	1·004	0·336	1·340
458	" cocoanut fibre	sq. yard	0·093	0·020	0·113
464*a*	Pitch	100 kins	0·149	0·294	0·443
464*b*	Wood tar	"	0·317	0·359	0·676
465	Plaster of Paris	"	0·155	0·122	0·277
467	Plumbago or blacklead	"	0·995	0·650	1·645
472	Putty	"	0·219	0·252	0·471
473	Rattans, split or otherwise ...	"	0·482	0·532	1·014
475	Sandalwood	"	1·085	1·221	2·306
479	Soap-stone, in lump or powder ...	"	0·127	0·119	0·246
484	Timber, santalum (Shitan) ...	"	0·166	0·157	0·323
520	Rice, hulled or unhulled	"	—	0·641	0·641

Regulations for the Enforcement of the Special Taxes Law.

The Board of Trade have also received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of the revised Regulations which have been issued to give effect to the Extraordinary Special Taxes Law. These Regulations may be seen by persons interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Additional Duties.—A Correction.

The statements showing the forthcoming increases of Japanese import duties, which appeared in the "Journal" for the 23rd and 30th March last, require to be corrected as follows:—

1. *Tariff No.* 69*c*.—For "*tinctures of all kinds*," read "*all kinds of alcoholic drugs or alcohol medicated.*"

2. *Tariff No.* 271.—For "*telegraph poles*," in the list of exceptions under this heading, read "*electric wire brackets.*"

3. *Tariff No.* 286 (All other oils and waxes).—No additional duty is levied on *stearin*, included under this heading.

4. *Tariff No.* 365.—The additional duties on the articles included in this number are 20 per cent. and 15 per cent. *ad valorem*, respectively, and not, as stated in the "Journal" for the 30th March, 15 and 10 per cent.

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

FRANCE.

Modification of Law as to Compulsory Pilotage.

The "Journal Officiel" of 13th May contains a Law raising the limit of tonnage enjoying exemptions from compulsory pilotage from 80 to 100 tons in the case of sailing vessels, and from 100 to 150 tons in the case of steamers.

PORTUGUESE INDIA.

Port and Tonnage Dues.

A despatch has been received from H.M. Consul at Mormugão (Mr. R. A. Becher), forwarding a translation of a Government Decree regarding port and tonnage dues levied in Portuguese India.

The translation referred to may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Increased Shipping facilities with Far East.

An event bearing materially on the question of exports to the Far East, the British Vice-Consul at St. Paul (Mr. J. W. Robinson), says in his report for 1904, was the completion during the year of the steamship "Minnesota," owned and, with other similar vessels, to be managed by the Great Northern Railway Company of St. Paul. The vessel sailed on her first trip in January, 1905, from Puget Sound, with a cargo of 26,000 tons of general merchandise consigned to China, Japan and the Philippines. This enormous cargo was made up of the principal export commodities, including cotton, cotton goods, steel rails, structural steel, flour, &c. Lacking adequate facilities for such shipments heretofore from Pacific Ports, much of such goods was exported from Atlantic Ports in British bottoms, or went *viâ* the United Kingdom or Europe, and the ability of this company to carry in only one of its new vessels a single cargo of 52,000,000 lbs. of merchandise, coupled with the very low freight rate charged to get the goods to the coast, must in a short time very materially affect not only exports from Atlantic ports, but also British shipping now engaged in trade with the Far East. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,349.)

VENEZUELA.

Abolition of Hon. Consulates Abroad.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Caracas (Mr. P. C. Wyndham) notifying that the honorary Consulates-General, honorary Consulates, and honorary Vice-Consulates of Venezuela abroad have been abolished by Official Decree.

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MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Enquiry under the Boiler Explosions Act.

A formal investigation was held in the Town Hall, Bolton, on the 5th, 6th and 8th May, into the circumstances attending the explosion of a cylinder which occurred at Bradley Fold, near Bolton, on the 27th August, 1904. The Commissioners found that the explosion was caused by the improper construction of the cylinder, and ordered the coppersmith who, shortly before the explosion, had reconstructed it, to pay 50*l.* towards the costs of the investigation.

TRANSVAAL.

Mineral Production in 1904.

The following figures showing the mineral production of the Transvaal during the year 1904, with comparison with the preceding year, are extracted from a return received at the Board of Trade from Johannesburg:—

	1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Gold ... ... Ounces	2,963,759	12,589,249	3,779,621	16,054,809
Silver ... ... Fine ,,	350,070	36,745	416,262	45,319
Coal ... ... Tons of 2,000 lbs.	2,253,677	877,976	2,409,033	883,891
Diamonds ... ... Carats	174,976	239,752	884,331	1,150,873
All other minerals, precious stones, &c.	—	283,866	—	319,244
Total value	—	14,027,588	—	18,454,136

FEDERATED MALAY STATES.

Report of Tailings Commission, 1904.

The Colonial Office have forwarded a copy of the report of the Tailings Commission, 1904, of the Federated Malay States, appointed to enquire into the question of the disposal of silt and tailings, and upon other matters connected with mining.

The report may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

FRENCH INDO-CHINA.

Mining Regulations in Laos and Cambodia.

The "Journal Officiel" of French Indo-China of 23rd March contains a Decree extending to Laos and Cambodia the provisions of the Law promulgated on 25th February, 1897, regulating mines in Annam and Tonkin.

The "Journal" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

SPAIN.

Tin-plate Production.

H.M. Consul at Bilbao (Mr. C. G. Wood) reports that the tin-plate import and industry is increasing yearly, as may be seen by the following table, although there are only two factories, possessing six mills each, working in the country:—

——	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Iberia Works	5,171	7,508	7,880
Basconia Works	3,515	3,714	4,500

In addition to the above, 828 tons weight of tin buckets were made by the Iberia Works, and 100,000 buckets by the Basconia. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,352.)

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Mineral Production of Austria.

The following figures showing the quantity and value of the output of the most important mining products throughout Austria in 1903, are taken from a report by Mr. Alan Johnstone, Councillor to H.M. Embassy at Vienna:—

——	Quantity.	Total Value in 1903.		Difference as compared with 1902.
	Metercentners.	Kr.	£	Kr.
Gold ores	21,475	105,779	4,407	+ 84,639
Silver ores	219,578	2,871,309	119,637	+ 167,465
Quicksilver ores ...	833,208	2,209,188	92,049	+ 81,761
Copper ores	126,879	530,869	22,119	+ 5,803
Iron ores	17,159,836	14,766,560	615,273	+ 344,555
Lead ores	220,961	3,263,179	135,965	+ 601,521
Tin ores	295,438	1,878.610	78,275	+ 13,713
Alum and vitriol slate	29,783	23,826	992	+ 5,766
Manganese ores ...	61,789	128,851	5,368	— 31,244
Graphite	295,895	1,882,503	78,437	— 68,777
Asphalt	12,753	54,000	2,250	— 13,280
Brown coal	222,575,209	100,380,387	4,182,516	—3,953,993
Coal	114,981,113	97,435,374	4,059,807	+ 535,249

(*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,343.)

NOTE.—1 metercentner (metric quintal) = 220·48 lbs.

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 13th May, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.* 8*d.*
Barley	24*s.* 10*d.*
Oats	18*s.* 3*d.*

For further particulars see p. 326.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 327, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 13th May, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding weeks of 1904.

LAGOS.

Prospective Export Trade in Maize.

The "Weekly Record" (Lagos) in a recent note on the prospects of establishing an export trade in maize with the United Kingdom, states that corn has already figured as an item of commercial export, chiefly to the Gold Coast, but with a few shipments to Europe also. It is averred, however, considering the fertile lands in the interior, that the Colony may be able to export over 100,000 tons annually.

As an inducement to the native agriculturist it is suggested that local firms should give assurances that ready sales can be obtained on the spot, since the natives will not undertake the responsibility of individual shipments to Europe.

RUSSIA.

Exhibition of Products of Russian Rural Industry.

The Acting British Commercial Agent at Moscow (Mr. H. M. Grove) announces that there will be held in the autumn of this year, at St. Petersburg, under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture and Domains, an exhibition of the products of the peasant representatives of the rural industry of all Russia.

GERMANY—CAMEROONS.

Rubber Production.

According to the "Elektrotechnische Zeitschrift," the exports of rubber from the Cameroons during the first six months of 1904 amounted to 392,681 kilogs. The exports during the three preceding years were:—1901, 506,162 kilogs.; 1902, 354,309 kilogs.; 1903, 626,511 kilogs. The "Zeitschrift" adds that the production of rubber is likely to increase still more, as new districts are constantly being worked; the price, however, naturally increases when the rubber is extracted in districts remote from the coast. The

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Agriculture.

methods of extraction hitherto employed are of an absolutely primitive nature, involving the destruction of the trees; but the German authorities are endeavouring to instil more rational methods into the natives and to systematise the re-plantation with rubber trees of districts near the coast.

NICARAGUA.

Unsuccessful Attempts at Cotton Cultivation.

In a recent report by the Belgian Chargé d'Affaires in Central America, he states that attempts which have been made to cultivate cotton on a large scale in Nicaragua have proved totally unsuccessful. At the beginning of the season all went well, and an abundant harvest was anticipated; but the plants were ravaged by insects before development, and totally destroyed. A large amount of capital had been invested in this enterprise, and the major portion of this has been lost; it is therefore unlikely that any fresh endeavours will be made to cultivate cotton in Nicaragua.

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

State of the Labour Market in April, 1905.

A report published in the "Board of Trade Labour Gazette"* of 16th May, based on 4,649 returns, viz.: 3,328 from Employers, or their Associations, 1,240 from Trade Unions, and 81 from other sources, states that on the whole employment showed little change in April as compared with the preceding month. Thers was some improvement in the pig iron and boot and shoe industries. On the other hand there was some decline in the printing and shipbuilding trades. The cotton and tinplate trades continued very brisk.

As compared with a year ago there was a general improvement in the iron and steel trades, and in the cotton, woollen, boot and shoe, and furnishing and wood working trades.

In the 271 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 575,968, making returns, 32,348 (or 5·6 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of April, 1905. This is the same percentage as in March and 0·4 per cent. less than in April, 1904.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 11th May, 1905, was 100,637 (including 603 bales British West Indian and 76 bales British West African), and the number imported during the 19 weeks ended the 11th May was 1,668,551 (including 2,137 bales British West Indian and 919 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 11th May, 1905, 4,172 bales, and for the 19 weeks, 187,730.

For further details see p. 326.

* For list of principal contents of the "Board of Trade Labour Gazette," see p. 330.

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Miscellaneous.

UNITED KINGDOM—*continued.*

Bankruptcy Statistics.

The total number of receiving orders gazetted in England and Wales during the month of April last was 358, as compared with 375 during April, 1904.

For detailed particulars see pp. 328-9.

RUSSIA.

Sakhalin Fisheries.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from the British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) forwarding the following extract relating to the effect of the Russo-Japanese war on the Sakhalin fisheries:—

"The 'Commercial and Industrial Gazette' of St. Petersburg of 15th/28th March states that, as is well known, all business affairs on the Island of Sakhalin, and more especially the fisheries, the chief industry of the island, have had to be suspended by Russians owing to the war.

"The principal Russian inhabitants concerned have long ago abandoned the island. . . . The Japanese will certainly not fail to occupy at least the southern shore, for the sake of guaranteeing a free catch of herrings, whose movement begins in April.

"How important the Sakhalin fisheries are for Japan is seen from the fact that in 1901, 1,219,500 pouds of herring-manure, and 942,500 pouds of *keta* (a fish of the salmon kind), to the value of 2,666,000 roubles, were exported from the island to Japan. In the Sakhalin waters there were 113 steam and 155 sailing vessels, with crews to the number of 12,316 men.

"Compared with the catch of the same kinds in Japan itself, the *keta* caught at Sakhalin was five times larger in amount . . . As a matter of fact the actual fisheries of Sakhalin have always been and are in the hands of the Japanese, who supplied the means and men. The policy of the local Russian Powers against the Japanese was confined to restraints in the delivery of fishing areas to them, or in other words, to a considerable indirect income obtained by certain enterprising Russians, in whose name the Japanese fished over particular districts. In 1902, for instance, in 87 fishing districts worked over by Russians, the catch amounted to 569,734 pouds, and in 139 fished by Japanese the catch was 777,257 pouds.

. . . . "With the close of the fisheries the Treasury has lost, counting only Sakhalin, an annual revenue of up to 120,000 roubles, or, including the whole coast, over 200,000 roubles."

Poud = 36 lbs.; rouble = 2*s* 1½*d*.

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Miscellaneous.

SPAIN.

Alcohol Industry.

H.M. Consul at Bilbao (Mr. C. G. Wood) says in his report for 1904 that in the past a tax upon the manufacture of alcohol alone existed, but a new law has recently come into operation (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 6th October, 1904, pp. 27–8) imposing a duty upon the production and on the sale of alcohol, from which it is expected to gather a revenue of from 20,000,000 to 25,000,000 pesetas per annum.

The first effect of the new taxation is the closing of many small distilleries whose owners do not possess the means to make the necessary advance payments upon their production, and to stand by the expenses of distillation.

The big manufacturers have formed an important company (see "Board of Trade Journal" for 6th April, p. 37), and have distributed a proportion of the shares among influential persons in the country. They intend, it is said, to apply for a monopoly, for which purpose they have already made arrangements with the "Sociedad Azucarera de España" for sugar refuse.

Turpentine and Resin.

Mr. Wood further remarks that the most important resin company in Spain is registered in Bilbao under the name of "La Union Resinera Española." They are leasing and purchasing a great many pine-tree plantations all over Spain, and they acquired some 95,100 more trees in 1904 in the inland provinces.

The total number of trees worked during that year was 6,278,485 which yielded 14,722 tons of resin.

The output of the factories amounted as follows:—

——	1903.	1904.
	Tons.	Tons.
Turpentine	3,146	3,440
Resin	10,825	12,090

Imitation Portland Cement.

Regarding trade in cement, the Consul says that various consumers bring so-called Portland cement *viâ* Marseilles from Povin de la Farge for the paving of entrance halls and stairways, and for enamelling baths, &c., but the largest quantity comes in from Belgium, and is said to be sent in barrels not only imitating the size and weight of the British article, but bearing also British labels, together with their marks and colours, and costing 3 to 4 pesetas less. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,352.)

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Miscellaneous.

HONDURAS.

Trade in 1903-4.

The following table showing the value of the imports and exports of Honduras during the year ended 30th June, 1904, with comparative figures for the preceding year, is compiled from figures contained in the recent report of H.M. Consul at Tegucigalpa (Mr. C. W. Campbell):—

From and To—	Imports.		Exports.	
	July, 1902, to June, 1903.	July, 1903, to June, 1904.	July, 1902, to June, 1903.	July, 1903, to June, 1904.
	£	£	£	£
British Honduras	15,346	28,959	6,783	10,489
Cuba	—	124	46,327	67,336
United Kingdom	20,592	35,575	7,993	7,985
United States of America...	202,076	303,723	253,870	330,337
Other countries	49,388	76,446	36,039	27,422
Total ... ... £	287,402	444,827	351,012	443,569

(*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,334).

CHILE.

Trade in 1903.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Acting British Consul-General at Valparaiso (Mr. A. L. Rowley) the following figures of the import and export trade of Chile in 1903, compared with those for the previous year, extracted from the official statistics which have only recently been published:—

From and To	Imports.		Exports.	
	1902.	1903.	1902.	1903.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
United Kingdom	52,408,277	53,719,873	62,364,194	61,637,180
Germany	36,452,737	38,981,481	54,985,612	42,539,822
France	8,035,056	9,368,290	17,280,233	27,451,311
Holland	Not	given.	6,195,207	9,334,067
Belgium	1,599,830	2,071,830	5,663,321	8,004,551
Italy	2,880,012	4,525,458	4,699,104	3,206,399
United States of America	14,394,395	12,219,661	26,980,202	32,775,672
Peru	4,801,832	6,047,377	2,414,512	3,622,446
Argentina	3,182,918	4,255.208	Not	given.
Australia	2,637,385	3,393,852	Not	given.

Dollar = 1*s.* 6*d.*

The total value of the imports in 1903 was 142,470,569 dols., as compared with 132,428,204 dols. in 1902, and of the exports 194,279,672 dols. as compared with 185,879,965 dols.

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the **Number** of **Bales** of **Cotton Imported** and **Exported** at the **Various Ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the Week and 19 Weeks ended 11th May, 1905 :—

	Week ended 11th May, 1905.	19 Weeks ended 11th May, 1905.	Week ended 11th May, 1905.	19 Weeks ended 11th May, 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	88,691	1,381,574	3,160	132,700
Brazilian	4,217	22,606	—	507
East Indian	1,978	20,206	200	5,855
Egyptian	4,561	217,318	812	47,605
Miscellaneous	1,190*	26,847†	—	1,063
Total	100,637	1,668,551	4,172	187,730

* Including 603 bales British West Indian and 76 bales British West African.
† Including 2,137 bales British West Indian and 919 bales British West African.
‡ „ 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the **Average Price** of **British Corn,** per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 13th May, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 13th May, 1905	30	8	24	10	18	3
Corresponding week in—						
1898	48	1	26	0	21	3
1899	25	3	23	11	17	10
1900	25	7	24	5	18	5
1901	27	7	24	2	19	4
1902	31	1	25	3	22	5
1903	27	9	22	5	18	4
1904	27	1	19	10	16	6

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 13th May, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 13th May, 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	10,173	*9,157*
Sheep and lambs	"	7,343	*5,922*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	267	*334*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	106,063	*86,209*
Mutton	"	82 519	*43,247*
Pork	"	4,009	*6,999*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	95,816	*101,422*
Beef	"	4,267	*4 371*
Hams	"	26,880	*30,296*
Pork	"	3,033	*5,271*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	14,940	*12,730*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	18,330	*11,783*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	92,894	*87,446*
Margarine	"	21,095	*20,301*
Cheese	"	18,616	*21,683*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	102	*94*
" condensed	"	20,065	*19,490*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	4	*107*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	542.618	*434,075*
Poultry	Value £	16,268	*23,233*
Game	"	611	*2,844*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	6,831	*2,754*
Lard	"	35,206	*42,101*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,299,400	*2,067,400*
Wheat meal and flour	"	217,900	*282,400*
Barley	"	303,700	*545,900*
Oats	"	222,300	*292,500*
Peas	"	22,964	*73,670*
Beans	"	10,610	*20,850*
Maize or Indian corn	"	563,600	*367,600*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	45,019	*28,564*
Apricots and peaches	"	12	—
Bananas	Bunches.	115,051	*75,085*
Cherries	Cwts.	1,459	*4,983*
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	349	*87*
Grapes	"	116	*220*
Lemons	"	18,910	*10,355*
Oranges	"	63,844	*160,194*
Pears	"	477	*121*
Plums	"	—	—
Strawberries	"	10	*96*
Unenumerated	"	891	*1.089*
Hay...	Tons.	1,778	*2,844*
Straw	"	1,818	*3,579*
Moss Litter*	"	1,832	—
Hops	Cwts.	718	*722*
Locust Beans	"	47,720	*21,901*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	157,218	*338,008*
Potatoes	Cwts.	64,586	*272,007*
Tomatoes	"	17.588	*25,185*
Unenumerated	Value £	13,865	*12,367*
Vegetables, dried, ...	Cwts.	6,621	*1,463*
Preserved by canning...	"	4,493	*3,436*

* Not shown in 1904.

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Bankruptcy.—England and Wales.

Number of Receiving Orders Gazetted in the under-mentioned Periods and in the under-mentioned Principal Trades and Occupations.

	April.		Four Months ended April.	
	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*
Total gazetted...	No. 358	*No. 375*	No. 1,669	*No. 1,554*
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations :—				
Publicans and hotel keepers, &c.	24	*25*	110	*89*
Grocers, &c....	25	*24*	108	*98*
Builders	25	*26*	96	*109*
Farmers	17	*12*	93	*60*
Bakers	6	*13*	52	*51*
Greengrocers, fruiterers, &c.	8	*6*	49	*45*
Drapers, haberdashers, &c.	6	*13*	42	*44*
Boot and shoe manufacturers and dealers ...	13	*11*	41	*29*
Decorators, painters, plumbers, &c.	8	*4*	40	*26*
Tailors, &c.	4	*6*	31	*31*
Butchers	6	*6*	31	*31*
Coal and coke merchants and dealers	7	*4*	31	*22*
Agents, commission and general	8	*3*	31	*18*
Fishmongers, poulterers, &c.	9	*6*	29	*25*
Auctioneers	4	*4*	23	*10*
Corn, flour, seed, hay, and straw merchants and dealers	5	*4*	19	*18*
Carpenters and joiners	9	*2*	19	*10*
Confectioners	4	*6*	18	*18*
Furniture dealers and makers	5	*5*	17	*22*
Hairdressers...	3	*5*	17	*11*
Restaurant, coffee and eating-house keepers ...	3	*2*	16	*11*
Tobacconists, &c.	6	*5*	16	*11*
Carriers, carmen, lightermen, and hauliers ...	2	*4*	15	*13*
Clerks, commercial and general	2	*4*	15	*23*
Travellers, commercial	3	*6*	15	*12*
Jewellers, watchmakers, silversmiths, &c. ...	4	*6*	14	*19*
Provision merchants, &c.	4	*6*	14	*11*
General dealers	5		13	*21*

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Bankruptcy.—England and Wales—*continued.*

	April.		Four Months ended April	
	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*
	No.	*No.*	No.	*No.*
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations—*continued:*				
Engineers and founders, &c.	6	*3*	18	*13*
Clothiers, outfitters, &c.	4	*5*	18	*10*
Printers, booksellers, and publishers	4	*3*	12	*19*
Solicitors	4	*7*	12	*16*
Cab, omnibus and fly proprietors	1	*2*	12	*6*
Bicycle, &c., manufacturers and dealers ...	—	*2*	11	*10*
Milliners, dressmakers, &c.	1	*1*	11	*11*
Ironmongers	2	*2*	11	*10*
Cabinet makers and upholsterers	4	*2*	11	*11*
Stationers	4	*2*	11	*4*
Schoolmasters and schoolmistresses	2	*1*	10	*8*
Doctors of medicine, physicians, &c.	2	*2*	10	*7*
Directors and promoters of public companies ...	8	*2*	10	*9*
Wheelwrights	8	*2*	10	*7*
Contractors	2	*3*	9	*11*
Gardeners, florists, &c.	3	*4*	9	*17*
Lodging-house keepers	8	—	9	*8*
Timber merchants and wood dealers	1	*2*	8	*10*
Chemists, druggists and chemical manufacturers	1	*1*	8	*7*
Cattle and pig dealers	2	*1*	8	*9*
Carriage, &c., builders	8	*4*	8	*10*
Merchants, general	—	*2*	7	*12*
China, glass, and earthenware, &c., dealers ...	—	*1*	6	*5*
Curriers, tanners, and leather merchants ...	—	—	6	*2*
Woollen merchants and manufacturers... ...	—	*1*	6	*6*
Officers in Army	—	*2*	6	*7*
Stone, marble and monumental masons, &c. ...	1	*3*	6	*8*
Saddlers and harness makers	2	*1*	6	*9*
Blacksmiths, farriers, &c.	1	*7*	5	*15*
Architects and surveyors	—	*1*	4	*9*
Fishing smack owners, and masters	1	—	4	*3*
Wine and spirit merchants, &c.	2	*3*	4	*6*
Brokers, stock and share	—	*2*	3	*7*
Hosiers, glovers, &c.	—	*1*	3	*6*
Dairymen, cowkeepers, &c.	—	*1*	2	*10*
Millers	1	*1*	2	*8*
Cotton spinners and manufacturers	—	—	1	*2*

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of April, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* 1*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the May issue:—State of the Labour Market in April; Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom; Emigration and Immigration in 1904; Relief of the Unemployed; Coal Exports, 1900–1904; and recent Conciliation Cases.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the Annual Series issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,365. Trade of Hawaii in 1903-04.

Predominance of the United States of America both in import and export trade. British Colonies take four-fifths of foreign exports; Japan sends most of the foreign imports.

Account of the sugar, pineapple and sisal industries.

Decline in rice production.

Trade statistics.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,366. Trade of Batoum, 1904.

Trade depressed owing to war and labour difficulties.

List of articles of import from United Kingdom and British Colonies.

Figures of the transit trade from Persia through Batoum.

Account of petroleum trade.

Coal deposits in the Caucasus.

This publication contains also reports by H.M. Representatives at Poti and Novorossisk.

No. 3,367. Trade of the Cyclades, 1904.

Continued commercial depression, trade being deflected to Continental Greece.

Foreign imports declining all round.

Export trade in Naxos, emery, citrons in brine, &c.

Development in the gunpowder industry.

Statistics of imports, exports and shipping at Syra, and notes on the islands of Zea, Santorin, Milo, Thermia, Seriphos, and Tinos.

No. 3,368. Trade of Havre, 1904.

Progress of harbour works.

Continued increase in shipping.

Decline in the percentage of tonnage under French flag.

Direct line to Canada.

Notes on trade in cotton, wool, coffee, cacao, &c., to March, 1905.

Condition of agriculture.

This publication contains also reports, with returns of imports, exports and shipping by the British Vice-Consuls at Rouen, Caen, Dieppe, Fécamp, Saint Valéry-en-Caux, Honfleur, Tréport and Trouville.

No. 3,369. Trade of the Morea, 1904.

Trade unsatisfactory owing to partial failure of crops.

Depressed condition of currant trade.

Increasing import of Labrador cod and other fish.

No. 3,370. Trade and Agriculture of the Piræus, 1904.

Volume of British shipping largest on record.

Comparative table of imports and exports.

Need for loading jetties for the marble trade.

Cotton cultivation.

This publication contains also a report by the British Vice-Consul at Laurium.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,371. Trade of Truxillo, 1904.

Need for travellers or agents in British goods, with samples.

Prosperous export trade in cattle.

Development of fruit culture.

No. 3,372. Trade of Kiungchow, 1904.

Volume of trade steadily increasing. Cotton goods, opium, Indian yarn, kerosene and flour the principal imports. Growing demand for rubber shoes.

Returns of principal imports and exports, with remarks on character of trade.

No. 3,373. Trade of Chinkiang, 1904.

Decline in trade, notably in imports of piece-goods and cotton yarn.

Steady development in kerosene import trade.

Increasing demand for enamelled ironware, cigarettes, soap, &c.

Expanding exports of eggs and feathers.

Returns of imports, exports and shipping.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Tenth Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom, 1902-04. [*Cd.* 2,491]. *Price* 1*s.* 2*d.*

This volume, which is compiled in the Labour Department of the Board of Trade, contains in a succinct form official statistics as to the state of employment in 1902–04, the work of labour bureaux, standard rates of wages and hours of labour at the beginning of 1905, profit-sharing, prices, trade disputes and conciliation, associations of employers, trade unions, as well as many other subjects connected with labour and the conditions of the working classes in the United Kingdom.

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.—In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Among the branches of work now carried on by the Imperial Institute at South Kensington are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which is exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Imperial Institute Bulletin," issued quarterly, contains information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

March, 1905.

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SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

March, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

To Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.)

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Absorbent Blottings—
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ... ...

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Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Admiralty Charts—
Potter, J. D., 145, Minories 8 & 26

Agents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Agricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. ...
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Air Compressors—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Ale, Beer, and Stout Merchants—
Daukes & Co., Strand, London

Alkali Manufacturers—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Alloys—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
The Atlas Metal & Alloys Co., Ltd., 52, Queen Victoria Street, E.C. ...

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Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.)

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Ammunition Manufacturers—
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham 9
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow 1

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Anti-friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
The Atlas Metal & Alloys Co., Ltd., 52, Queen Victoria Street, E.C. ...

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E.

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife Bros. & Lilley, 313, Broad Street, Birmingham

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Bags and Sacks—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Barrels, Casks, Shooks, &c.—
Rankin, G. & J., Ltd., 2/4, Houlgrove St., Liverpool...

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton ... ...

Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. ... 15

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham... ...
Evered & Co., London and Birmingham ... ...
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C. 15
Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London ...

Bellows—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...

Bevelled and Bent Glass—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 3

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WELDLESS STEEL TUBES and the BEST BUTTED TUBES

MADE BY

ACCLES AND POLLOCK

OLDBURY, BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND.

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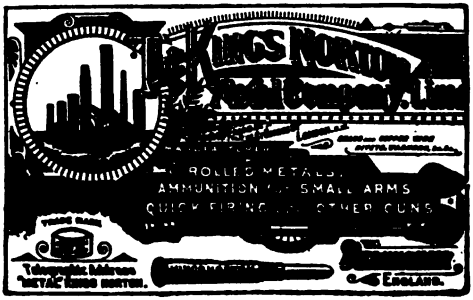

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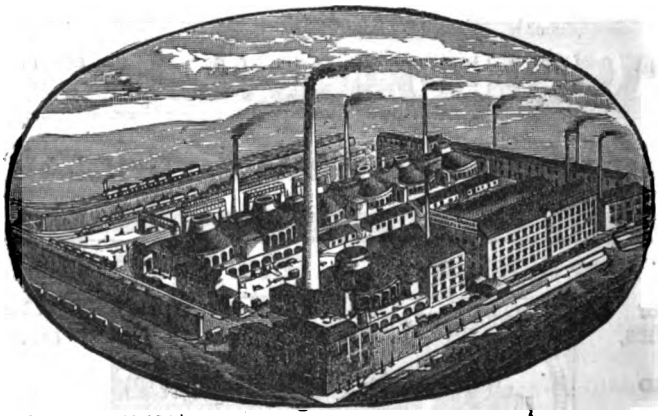

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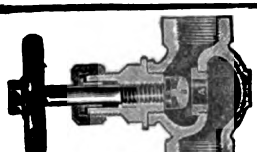

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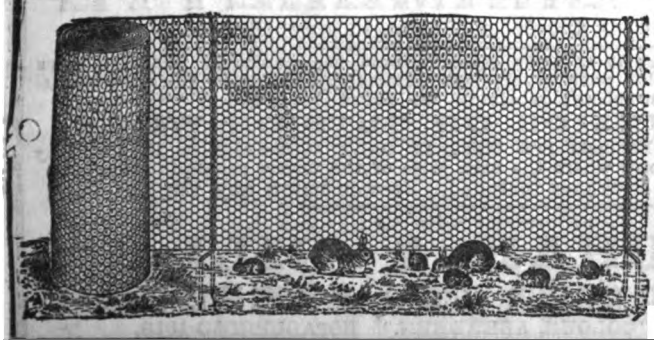

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MAY 25TH, 1905.

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Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLIX.] May 25, 1905. [No. 443

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 381.

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

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Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 382.

The "Bulletin" of the Imperial Institute which has, since the taking over of the Institute by the Board of Trade in January, 1903, been issued as a Supplement to the "Board of Trade Journal" (see notice on p. 337 of the "Journal" for 21st May, 1903), will hereafter be issued as a separate publication.

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UNITED KINGDOM.

Colonial Fruit. See under "Forthcoming Exhibitions," p. 345, for an announcement respecting the "Royal Horticultural Society's Show of Colonial-grown Fruit."

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4. Fencing—about 65 tons.

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 55, Gracechurch Street, E.C.

Tenders, addressed to the Chairman and Directors of the South Indian Railway Company, Limited, and marked "Tender for General Stores," or as the case may be, must be left with the Managing Director, not later than noon of Tuesday, the 30th May.

The Company are not bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

A charge, which will not be returned, will be made of 20*s.* for each copy of specification No. 1, and of 10*s.* for each copy of Nos. 2, 3, and 4.

Copies of the drawings may be obtained at the office of Sir George B. Bruce, 3, Victoria Street, Westminster, on payment of 5*s.* per sheet.

Railway Material.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of—

1. Spiral and volute springs,
2. Laminated bearing springs for engines, tenders, and carriages,
3. Steel tyres for carriages and wagons,
4. Brass boiler tubes,
5. Flanged and plain copper plates, copper pipes and rods,
6. India rubber fittings,
7. Steel engine tyres,
8. Colliery tubs,
9. Wheels with axles and bearings for colliery trucks,
10. Buffers,
11. Wheel centres for carriages and wagons,

as per specifications to be seen at the Company's Offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Spiral and Volute Springs," or as the case may be, not later than noon on Wednesday, the 31st May.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

For each specification, a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

Railway Stores.

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of the following stores, namely:—Wrought iron or mild steel channels; leather belting, hose, &c.; soap; bench vices; cloths, &c.; cast-iron water pipes, &c.

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, E.C., on payment of the fee for the specification, which payment will not be returned.

Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Wrought Iron Channels," or, as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 1st June.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—Enquiry has been made for names of Canadian firms in a position to supply large quantities of chair legs, brush handles, &c.

The names of Canadian shippers of horse hair, clean washed, long, white or black, and assorted according to length, have been asked for.

An importer of dairy and other produce has requested to be placed in communication with first hand sources for obtaining regular shipments of frozen hogs, weighing dead and cleaned, 1 to 1¼ cwts.

Enquiry has been made for fifty thousand wood buckets, 13 and 14 inches diameter, to hold 28 lbs. of lard.

A north of England firm have made enquiry for yellow scale 124° to 126° melting point, for the manufacture of candles, which they now import from the United States of America.

A large firm manufacturing picric acid are seeking to do direct business with Canadian importers.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

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Openings for British Trade.

CANADA—*continued.*

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A firm manufacturing emery cloths, glass papers and polishing powders invite correspondence from Canadian firms dealing with these articles.

A firm manufacturing gas retorts and various fire clay goods are willing to appoint a Canadian resident agent.

A manufacturer of gold chains and jewellery would like to be placed in communication with Canadian wholesale jewellers.

A manufacturer of incandescent mantles and other incandescent goods wishes to do business in Canada.

A company manufacturing structural iron work, steel pipes, steel tanks, and other goods are prepared to appoint a Canadian resident agent.

Canadian Enquiries.—A Canadian company manufacturing corundum wheels and other emery goods are prepared to appoint a United Kingdom agent possessing a connection in these goods, and also facilities for carrying stock.

A Canadian fruit-growing company packing apples under Government inspection wish to hear from United Kingdom importers willing to purchase lots of from 1,000 to 10,000 barrels on a cash basis.

A firm of engineers and manufacturers' agents in Montreal are willing to represent a first-class producer of linseed oil. One of the partners is now in England.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Sulphate of Copper.

The "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" of 15th April announces that tenders endorsed "Tender for Sulphate of Copper," will be received at the office of the Secretary, Postmaster-General's Department, 51, Spring Street, Melbourne, up to noon on the 17th July, 1905, for the supply of about 138 tons of sulphate of copper for the use of the Postmaster-General's Department in the several States of the Commonwealth during the year ending 30th June, 1906, namely:—New South Wales, 50 tons; Victoria, 24 tons; Queensland, 20 tons; South Australia, 18 tons; Western Australia, 20 tons; and Tasmania, 6 tons; approximately in each case.

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The sulphate of copper must consist of clean crystals, free from dust. The crystals must pass through a ¾-inch mesh, but not through a ¼-inch mesh, must contain 25 per cent. of metallic copper and be free from iron, zinc, or other impurities. They must be packed in strong sound kegs, or in strong new cases, free from stains, which will contain 56 lbs. or 112 lbs., as required. Second-hand or repaired cases or casks will not be accepted.

Tenderers are required to quote in their tenders alternative prices for delivery of the material in such quantities as may be required by the Postmaster-General's Department from time to time, during the contract period of twelve months, namely:—

1. C.I.F. at such port or ports in the Commonwealth as may be required by the Department—delivery to be taken by the Department in ship's slings or in railway trucks; and

2. At the store branches of the Postmaster-General's Department in the capitals of the several States, as may be required by the Department.

Tenders must be accompanied by a deposit of 5 per cent. of the amount thereof up to 1,000*l.*, and 2½ per cent. on the amount in excess of 1,000*l.*

Tenderers must state the name of the country or State in which the material is or will be produced.

The Postmaster-General does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any tender.

Tender forms may be obtained at the offices of the Deputy Postmasters-General of the several States.

Tenders must be addressed to the Secretary, Postmaster-General's Department, 51, Spring Street, Melbourne, and, if sent by post, they must be registered.

NATAL.

Railway Construction and Working.

The "Natal Government Gazette," of 18th April announces that the Natal Government are prepared to receive tenders for the final survey, construction, and complete equipment of the proposed Stuartstown Railway, two feet gauge, about 100 miles in length, and the working and maintenance of such railway for two years after final completion.

The railway is to commence at the Esperanza station on the Umzinto branch 3 feet 6 inches gauge railway, and to terminate at the Donnybrook station on the Natal-Cape 3 feet 6 inches gauge railway, now under construction.

Particulars, conditions of contract and specifications, and form of tender may be seen at the office of the Consulting Engineer for Natal, 39, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W., and at the office of the Engineer-in-Chief, Natal Government Railways, Pietermaritzburg, Natal; and copies of the conditions of contract,

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Openings for British Trade.

with specifications and form of tender, will be obtainable on payment of five guineas, which will be returned on receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender.

Each tenderer must accompany his tender by a fixed deposit receipt of any approved bank in London or Natal, in the name of the Natal Government for the sum of 500*l.* in terms of the tender.

The Natal Government are not bound to accept the lowest or any tender.

Tenders marked "Tender for Stuartstown Railway, Natal," and addressed, under sealed cover, to the Agent-General for Natal, 26, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W., or to the Chairman of the Tender Board, Pietermaritzburg, Natal, must be lodged at the office of either of the above not later than noon on Monday, 17th July, 1905.

TRANSVAAL AND ORANGE RIVER COLONIES.

Railway Material.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies, acting on behalf of the Administration of the Central South African Railways, invite tenders from manufacturers for the supply of—

1. About 9,428 tons of steel rails (80 lbs.) to British standard specifications, and

2. 43,000 fishplates.

Specifications and conditions of contract can be obtained at the office of the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, S.W., on and after Monday, 29th May, 1905, between the hours of 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

A charge of 1*l.* will be made for each specification which will be returnable to each person or firm on receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender, properly completed in all respects, within the time specified below.

Tenders to be delivered in sealed envelopes addressed to the Crown Agents for the Colonies, Whitehall Gardens, London, S.W., not later than noon Friday, 9th June, endorsed "Tender for Permanent Way Materials, Central South African Railways."

The Crown Agents do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

NETHERLANDS.

Cardiff Coal.

A communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, from H.M. Consul at Rotterdam (Mr. H. Turing), notifying that tenders will be received up to the 31st May, by the Director of Naval Establishments at Willemsoord for the supply and delivery of about 10,000 tons of Cardiff coal. The coal must be from one of the following mines:—

Nixon Navigation Company, Limited; Penhrwhyton Navigation

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Openings for British Trade.

(large coals); Harris Deep Navigation; Ocean Merthyr steam coals; Hoods Merthyr steam coals; Oriental Merthyr steam coals; Insole's Merthyr steam coals; International Cardiff coals; National Merthyr coals; Great Western Navigation smokeless steam coal; Albion Merthyr; Corn's Merthyr; Cyfarthfa; Dowlais Merthyr; Ferndale; Hills Plymouth Merthyr; Lewis Merthyr; Lockett's Merthyr; Naval Merthyr; Powell Duffrey; Dowlais Cardiff.

The coal must not contain more than 25 per cent. small coal. Certificate of origin viséd by the Netherlands Consul at port of shipment must be produced. Delivery is to be made in quantities of 1,000 tons.

Mr. Turing adds that no tenders direct from English firms will be accepted, one of the conditions being that tenders must be made through Dutch firms.

BELGIUM.

Viaduct Construction.

The "Bulletin Commercial" of 20th May announces that the adjudication will shortly take place of tenders for the construction of a viaduct with metal superstructure, a brickwork viaduct, railings, &c., near the station at Meirelbeke, at the estimated cost of 292,921 fr. (about 11,716*l.*). A deposit of 18,000 fr. (about 720*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Further particulars may be obtained from "M. Sarton, Ingénieur en Chef, Chemins de Fer de l'État, Gand."

ITALY.

Linen and Woollen Rags: Linseed Oil.

The British Vice-Consul at Spezia (Mr. E. M. de Garston) forwards translations of notices calling for tenders for the supply to the Italian Navy of (1) linen and woollen rags to the estimated total value of 64,000 lire (about 2,560*l.*), and (2) raw and boiled linseed oil to the estimated value of 94,000 lire (about 3,760*l.*), to be delivered at the Royal Arsenals at Spezia, Naples, Venice and Taranto, as required.

Sealed tenders in both cases will be opened on 12th June next, deposits of 6,400 lire (about 256*l.*) and 9,400 lire (about 376*l.*) respectively, being required to qualify any tender. The final date for improving on the price of the provisional adjudications by a further rebate of not less than 5 per cent. will expire on 10th July, 1905. Local representation is necessary.

The special conditions of the contract may be seen at the Ministry of Marine, Rome; at the Directorates General of the Royal Arsenals; at the technical offices of the Navy, Genoa; and at the principal Chambers of Commerce in Italy.

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Openings for British Trade.

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Building Material.

H.M. Consul at Constantinople (Mr. A. T. Waugh), in reporting that new buildings are being erected in that city on a large scale, and that the demand for iron building material is increasing year by year, remarks that until British iron can compete in price with Belgian and German it stands no chance of recovering a better share of the market. There being few other openings for local capital, building is extremely popular with the native investor, and each year sees the erection of new blocks of flats in every quarter of the city.

Cement.

The annual importation of foreign cement is about 18,000 tons. A large quantity of French cement is brought to Constantinople in sailing vessels from Calais. The freight is about the same as from Marseilles, but there is a saving of 2 fr. per ton Calais to Marseilles; and at Constantinople the sailing vessel can moor alongside the consignee's wharf and discharge into his store, thus saving handling, quay dues, and lighterage. The saving by delivering in sacks to be returned is another item in favour of the cheap French cement, which will always keep the bulk of the market. Nevertheless, there is always a demand for a limited quantity of the higher priced but better quality British article.

The present quantity imported of about 1,000 tons per annum could be doubled if a regular weekly delivery could be relied upon during the period from March to December.

British cement is also at a disadvantage through the general use of the name "Portland." Ignorant buyers who see the label "Portland" on casks of inferior foreign cement are sometimes under the impression that they are buying the British article. This might, perhaps, be remedied by judicious advertisement of tests applied to British as compared with other cements. The British article cannot compete on the Constantinople market in point of cheapness; its one chance is its reputation for quality.

In the opinion of the Consul, it might be worth while to send out some one to examine the local conditions, with a view to pushing sales. Terms at Constantinople are, in nearly all cases, bill at three months, or discount for cash against bill of lading. Longer credit is given by the Hungarian shippers.

Dock Construction.

In quoting statistics showing that nearly half the tonnage passing through the Bosphorus is British, Mr. Waugh remarks that Constantinople is the natural place for a dock, lying as it does on the direct road of the large Black Sea traffic. No adequate dock accommodation exists in the whole Eastern Mediterranean. During the

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last winter as many as five steamers at a time have been waiting at Constantinople for the chance of getting into dock for repairs.

He suggests that it is in the interests of British shipping that suitable dock accommodation should be provided at that port. A dock company started with a moderate capital of say 100,000*l.* could reckon on constant work during the winter for repairs, and on continual work during the summer for painting and cleaning, provided its charges were moderate.

It would not be difficult to find a suitable site if the Turkish Government could be persuaded to grant a concession. Failing permission to construct a proper dry dock, a floating dock might be better than nothing. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series,* 3,357.)

NICARAGUA.

Railway Material and Hydro-Electric Plant.

H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Managua (Mr. Herbert Harrison) has forwarded to the Foreign Office copies and translations of two further concessions granted by the Nicaraguan Government to the Nicaraguan Finance and Improvement Company—the same Company who have been granted a monopoly for the manufacture of explosives (see "Board of Trade Journal" for 11th May, p. 275)—

1. For the construction of a railway from Managua to Jinotega.
2. For the right of utilising the falls of the River Tipitapa for generating electricity.

The documents above referred to, together with a memorandum drawn up by H.M. Consul at Greytown (Mr. H. F. Bingham) on the prospects of these schemes, may be seen on application at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

CHILE.

Harbour Works at Valparaiso.

With reference to the notice which appeared in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th March last, p. 443, the following notice has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, from the Chilean Legation in London:—

"By virtue of the Law No. 1,711 of the 16th November, 1904, and the Decree No. 149 of 20th January, 1905, the Government of Chile are prepared to receive tenders, which will be opened on 2nd April, 1906, for the construction of harbour works at Valparaiso. Plans and particulars may be seen at the Chilean Legation in London, the Consulate General of Chile in Liverpool, the Chilean Consulate in London, and at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade."

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Openings for British Trade.

ARGENTINA.

H.M. Consul at Buenos Aires (Mr. A. C. Ross) reports that a firm in that town wish to take up the sale of grocery specialities, such as fly-paper, ham paste, tinned cream, sauces and pickles. They sell the articles mentioned, and also tea, whisky and sausages. H.M. Consul adds that the firm enjoy a good reputation.

Grocery Specialities.

For further information, application should be made to H.M. Consul, Buenos Aires.

The following indications of openings for British trade in Argentina are extracted from the recent report of H.M. Consul at Rosario (Mr. H. M. Mallet) on the trade of his district for 1904:—

"The sale of agricultural machinery and implements has been important, and notwithstanding that merchants imported largely, anticipating the demand which the good harvest would bring, their stock has run short and new orders have been given.

Agricultural Machinery.

"In last year's report (see No. 3,157 Annual Series, noted in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 26th May, 1904, pp. 345-6) reference is made to the importation by way of experiment of an Australian machine called the 'Stripper.' This machine is now reported as having satisfied the farmers who have used it, and the agents here, in view of the demand, have found it necessary to order a fresh supply. . . . . .

"The third annual Live-stock and Agricultural Exhibition, held in May, was a success both as regards the exhibition and the sale of live-stock and machinery at its close."

"There is a good opening in this district (Rosario) for electric plant and appliances. At the present time foreigners alone are supplying almost all requirements in this line. . . . .

Electric Plant and Appliances.

"A power station, to be fitted with machinery for supplying electric current for lighting and other purposes, is also under construction by the Port Works Concessionnaires." . . . . .

"A few automobile carriages have been imported, and it is not improbable that a demand for this class of conveyance may arise when its utility becomes better understood."

Automobiles.

"There is a ready market for the following articles:—Agricultural machinery and implements, oils, paints, varnishes, lumber, iron girders, pig-iron, gas stoves, electrical appliances, fans, &c., tinned provisions, drugs, hats, boots and shoes, bazaar and fancy goods, glassware, crockery, lamps, stationery, perfumes, cotton and linen goods, Portland cement, wire (plain and barbed) for fencing, whisky, material (Hessians) for manufacture of sacks and twine, &c." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,362.)

Articles in Demand.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRAZIL.

Railway Plant.

The "Diario Official" of Brazil of 25th April contains Decrees approving plans presented by the Great Western of Brazil Railway Company for—(1) altering the gauge on the railway between Recifo and S. Francisco at a cost of 145,458*l.* (gold) and 495,321 paper milreis (about 33,021*l.*); extending the Pernambuco Central Railway from Antonio Olyntho to Pesqueira at a cost of 63,290*l.* (gold) and 2,299,108 paper milreis (about 153,273*l.*); and constructing a branch line from Itabayana to Campina Grande at a cost of 82,487*l.* (gold) and 3,980,340 paper milreis (about 447,788*l.*).

Machine Oil and Tow.

The "Diario" of 27th April contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply to the Central Railway of Brazil of 150,000 litres of machine oil, 180,000 litres of oil for cylinders, 200,000 litres of oil for carriages, 70,000 kilogs. of foreign white tow, and 85,000 kilogs. of grease obtained in Brazil, in accordance with conditions set forth in the "Diario." Tenders have to be presented at the office of the Company in Rio de Janeiro at noon on the 17th June. A deposit of 1,000 milreis (about 112*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Exhibition of Colonial-grown Fruit.

The Royal Horticultural Society (Vincent Square, Westminster, S.W.) have decided to hold a Show of Colonial grown Fruit on 5th and 6th December, 1905, to be followed by others in March, May, and December, 1906.

These dates are fixed with the object of suiting, if possible, the season which is most likely to find the produce of Canada, British Columbia, and the West Indies; of India and the Cape; and of Australia, Tasmania, and New Zealand, in the greatest perfection in London.

ITALY.

International Prize Competitions at the Milan Exhibition, 1906.

Referring to the notice on p. 13 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 6th April, a despatch has been received from H.M. Consul at Milan (Mr. J. H. Towsey) transmitting translation of a notice which has appeared in the local press, stating that the Executive Committee of the Milan Exhibition, 1906, propose to devote the sum of 100,000 lire (4,000*l.*), which the King of Italy has given towards the Exhibition, to prizes for various competitions.

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Openings for British Trade.

ITALY—*continued.*

Amongst the international competitions are the following:—10,000 lire for the best scheme of complete house furnishing and decoration; 10,000 lire for the best automobile for public traffic; 10,000 lire for aerial navigation; 5,000 lire for the best system of automatically coupling railway carriages; 5,000 lire for an appliance for protecting workmen against electric currents; 10,000 lire for an invention, the adoption of which will benefit Italian production and increase national welfare; 10,000 lire for the best system of insuring the purity of milk sold in populous centres; 10,000 lire for best type of workmen's dwellings adapted to the climate of northern Italy; 5,000 lire for the best motor boat.

Programme of Agricultural Section.

Mr. Towsey has also forwarded a copy of the English translation of the programme of the Agricultural Section which has been added to the Milan Exhibition.

This translation may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

International Agricultural Exhibition.

See p. 370 for a notice as to an International Agricultural Exhibition at Turin.

REGULATIONS UNDER THE MERCHANDISE MARKS ACT, 1887.

"Whereas it is provided by section sixteen of the Merchandise Marks Act, 1887, that the Commissioners of Customs (hereinafter referred to as the Commissioners) may from time to time make, revoke and vary regulations, either general or special, respecting the detention and forfeiture of goods the importation of which is prohibited by that section, and the conditions, if any, to be fulfilled before such detention and forfeiture, and may by such regulations determine the information, notices, and security to be given, and the evidence requisite for any of the purposes of the said section, and the mode of verification of such evidence.

"And whereas on the first day of December, Eighteen hundred and eighty-seven the Commissioners made certain regulations, and it has become necessary to vary them in respect of the two matters hereinafter referred to.

"Now, therefore, the Commissioners, in pursuance of the powers vested in them, do hereby vary the said Regulations as follows:—

"1. The amount for which security by bond is to be given under Regulation No. 4 shall be such sum not less than double the value of the goods as the Commissioners may require.

"2. The time at which the security may be given up under Regulation No. 7, if forfeiture is not completed and no action or suit has been commenced against the Commissioners or any of their officers in respect of the detention, shall be at the expiration of six months from the date of detention or the trial of the information.

"Dated at the Custom House, London, this first day of May, Nineteen hundred and five."

(Signed) T. J. PITTAR,
" F. S. PARRY,
" R. F. CRAWFORD,
Commissioners of H.M. Customs.

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NOTICES UNDER THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT, 1904.

The following are copies of Notices giving the results of the examination and testing of certain patterns of weighing instruments, &c., for use in trade which have been submitted to the Board of Trade under the provisions of section 6 of the Weights and Measures Act, 1904:—

The Board of Trade have examined and tested a pattern of a weighing instrument known as "Ingrey's Automatic Coal-weighing Machine," submitted to the Department under the provisions of section 6 of the above Act, and have issued a certificate that the pattern is not such as to facilitate the perpetration of fraud.

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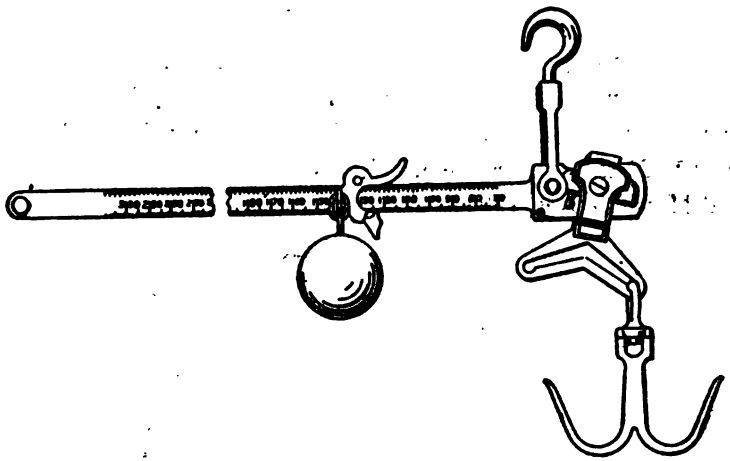
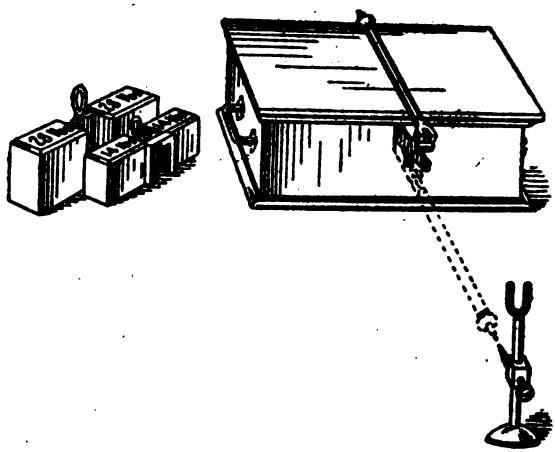
Notices under the Weights and Measures Act, 1904.



The Board of Trade have examined and tested a pattern of a weighing instrument known as the "Globe Patent Steelyard," submitted to the Department under the provisions of section 6 of the above Act, and have issued a certificate that the pattern is not such as to facilitate the perpetration of fraud.



The Board of Trade have examined and tested a pattern of a weighing instrument, in future to be known as the "Gart Rider-weight Steelyard," submitted to the Department under the provisions of Section 6 of the above Act, and have issued a certificate that the pattern is not such as to facilitate the perpetration of fraud when used as a portable instrument for the determination of nominal loads.

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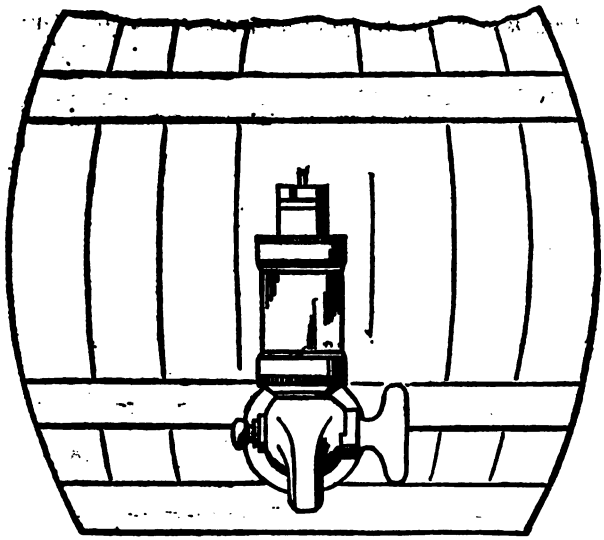
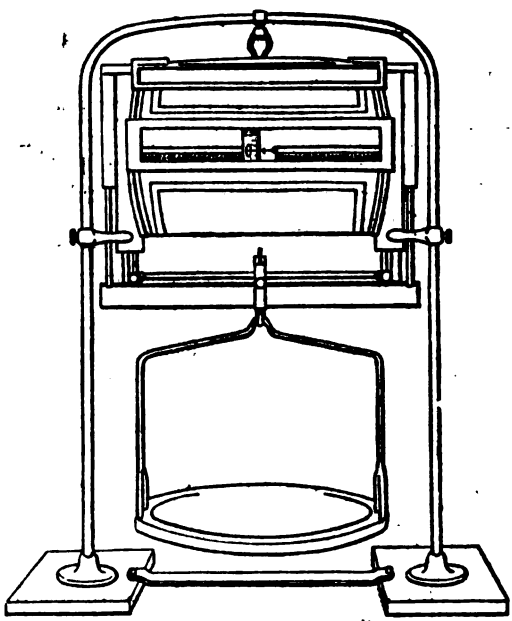
Notices under the Weights and Measures Act, 1904.



The Board of Trade have examined and tested a pattern of a measuring tap, submitted to the Department under the provisions of Section 6 of the above Act, but as the result of the examination was not satisfactory the Board have declined to issue a certificate of approval.



The Board of Trade have examined and tested a pattern of a weighing instrument known as the "Royal" Computing Spring Weighing Instrument, submitted to the Department under the provisions of Section 6 of the above Act, but as the result of the examination was not satisfactory, the Board have declined to issue a certificate of approval.

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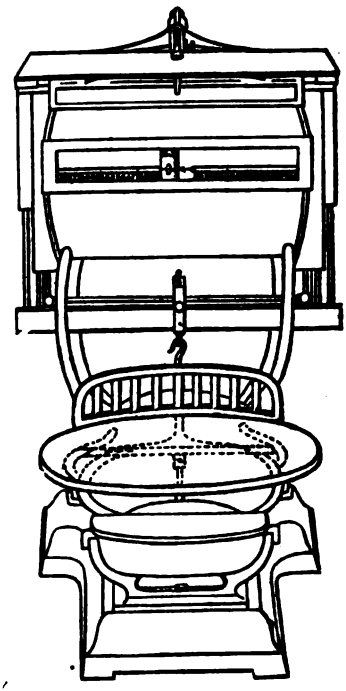
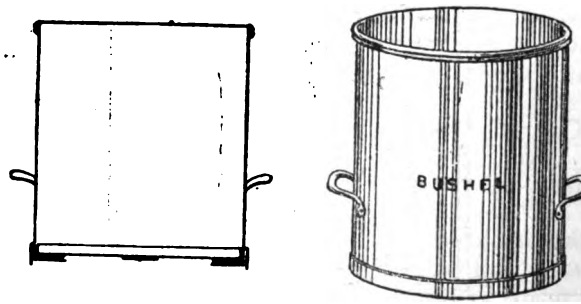
Notices under the Weights and Measures Act, 1904.



The Board of Trade have examined and tested a pattern of a weighing instrument known as the "Royal Majestic" Computing Spring Weighing Instrument, submitted to the Department under the provisions of Section 6 of the above Act, but as the result of the examination was not satisfactory, the Board have declined to issue a certificate of approval.



The Board of Trade have examined and tested a pattern of a measure of capacity of a bushel (of the dimensions of 15 inches by 13¾ inches), submitted to the Department under the provisions of Section 6 of the above Act, but as the result of the examination was not satisfactory, the Board have declined to issue a certificate of approval.

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BOARD OF TRADE.

Committee to enquire as to the operations of "Bond Investment" Companies.

The President of the Board of Trade has appointed the following Committee:—

Mr. J. G. Butcher, K.C., M.P. (Chairman),
Mr. Henry Cockburn (President of the Institute of Actuaries),
Mr. Stuart Sim (Registrar of Friendly Societies), and
Mr. G. S. Barnes (Comptroller of the Companies' Department of the Board of Trade), with
Mr. H. A. Payne as Secretary,

to enquire as to the operations of companies (not being Life Assurance Companies) which collect periodical payments from the industrial classes in return for benefits promised in the future, and whether it is desirable that there should be any restrictions imposed on such companies or any Government supervision of their transactions, and to report to the Board of Trade.

BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Colombia.—The British Vice-Consul at Bogotá (Mr. Spencer S. Dickson) has prepared a tabular statement showing, as regards each of the principal articles imported into Colombia, the present and former rates of import duty, the percentage imported from the British Empire during the past year, the other countries which share in the import, the influence of the increased duty on imports generally, and the influence on British trade as regards foreign competition, &c.

In the absence of statistics the proportion of British trade is of course only estimated. Mr. Dickson writes: "As matters stand at present, I can only again have recourse to the methods I have hitherto followed for obtaining information on commercial questions, that is, by direct enquiries addressed to the principal merchants of this city. The substitute for statistical tables which I now transmit represents the result of such enquiries, and I must express my thanks to the heads of many firms for their willing aid in this matter.

"Time will be needed to ascertain what will be the effect of the increased Customs duties on foreign trade. Many complaints have, naturally, made themselves heard, and a considerable diminution of imports has been prophesied. It is true that large orders have been cancelled, and that the returns for the coming year will appear small; but it is a question how far this decrease will be permanent. Colombia, with a few insignificant exceptions, is not a manufacturing country, and, outside the necessary food supply, she depends, even for the most primitive necessaries of life, on foreign imports."

Mr. Dickson goes on to say that two facts largely account for the increased and increasing trade of the United States with Colombia. There is the proximity of that country and the

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British Trade Abroad.

consequent lower freights, which explains itself, and there is a yearly increase in the proportion of young Colombians who are sent to the United States for their commercial education, in place of to the United Kingdom and France which were formerly chosen. It naturally follows that these youths are thrown more and more in touch with the large American exporting houses, and retain this connection on their return to Colombia. It is this connection with the United States that accounts for the fact that all the railway concessions lately granted by the Colombian Government have fallen to Americans.

Mr. Dickson's statement may be seen by those interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Thessaly.—In his report on the trade of Thessaly in 1904, H.M. Consul at Volo (Mr. A. A. C. Merlin) writes as regards British trade:—

"Although in the aggregate a considerable trade is done in articles of British manufacture, no commission agent or trader of British nationality is at present carrying on business in Thessaly, and the trade is therefore entirely maintained owing to the high estimation of the quality of the products which is very generally entertained throughout this district. I am frequently told that when an article of first-rate quality is desired the customer almost invariably insists that it shall be of British manufacture. Doubtless a much larger trade in British commodities would be effected were a competent British commission agent established at Volo. This is undoubtedly also the case in many other districts, and any scheme which would encourage young and energetic men to commence business in such places, and would afford them some tangible encouragement aud support for the first few critical years of their career, would do more to increase British trade than any quantity of circulars, &c. As things at present stand, it is evident that no person of sound judgment would willingly take the risk of establishing himself in a remote district where for a number of years the trade profits would probably not cover the cost of living, and where the general conditions of life would not be alluring." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,361.)

IMPORT TRADE OF THE TRANSVAAL.

With reference to the statement on p. 158 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 27th April, the following tables, showing the value of the principal and other articles imported into the Transvaal during the two months ended February, 1905, as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year, have been compiled from official figures published in the "Transvaal Government Gazette" of 20th April:—

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Import Trade of the Transvaal.

Imports (*exclusive of specie*).

Articles of Merchandise.	Two Months ended February. 1904.	1905.
	£	£
Metals and manufactures of (*includes agricultural implements, hardware, iron and steel manufactures, machinery, wire rope, &c.*)	523,000	435,000
Provisions, exclusive of corn and dairy products (*includes coffee, chicory, biscuits, meats, fresh and preserved, fish, fresh and preserved, jams, sugar, tea, vegetables, fruits, condiments, salt, &c.*) ...	394,000	395,000
Apparel, haberdashery, &c. (*includes hats*)	266,000	228,000
Corn and grain (*includes flour, meal and rice*) ...	184,000	220,000
Wood and manufactures (*includes furniture*)	172,000	147,000
Dairy products (*includes butter and butterine, eggs, cheese, preserved milk, &c.*)	93,000	98,000
Drugs and chemicals	77,000	96,000
Live animals	62,000	94,000
Leather and manufactures (*includes saddlery and boots and shoes*)	91,000	88,000
Beverages (*includes ale, spirits, wine and mineral waters*)	71,000	64,000
Arms and ammunition (*includes dynamite and other explosives*)	40,000	53,000
Stationery and paper (*includes wall paper and books*)	48,000	51,000
Vehicles (*includes cycles and accessories*)	58,000	50,000
Groceries and oilmen's stores (*includes oils, paints, turpentine and varnish*)	63,000	45,000
Cotton manufactures	33,000	43,000
Soap and candles	41,000	42,000
Electric cable wire and fittings	17,000	40,000
Tobacco, raw and manufactured (*includes cigars and cigarettes*)	32,000	39,000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	28,000	31,000
Tramway material...	18,000	19,000
Woollen manufactures	16,000	16,000
Instruments, musical and other	16,000	14,000
Cocoa, chocolate, and confectionery	10,000	11,000
Glass and glassware	13,000	9,000
Bags (not leather or canvas)	6,000	9,000
Cement and lime	5,000	9,000
Earthenware and crockery	9,000	8,000
Toys and sporting goods	6,000	7,000
Seeds, trees and plants	13,000	6,000
Coal, coke and patent fuel	3,000	6,000
Fuse	5,000	5,000
Carpets	4,000	3,000
Photographic material	4,000	3,000
Tobacconist ware	4,000	3,000
Linen manufactures	2,000	1,000
Other articles of merchandise	37,000	32,000
Total... ... ... £	2,464,000	2,430,000

Of the total value of merchandise imported into the Transvaal during the two months ended February, 1905, 745,000*l.* worth were sent *viâ* Cape Colony, 1,163,000*l.* worth *viâ* Natal, and 522,000*l.* worth *viâ* Delagoa Bay.

NOTE.—The above figures do not include free importations for Local Government or Military Stores, or Railway Material imported as "Government Stores."

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

DOMINION OF CANADA.

Customs Decisions.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of an Appraisers' Bulletin (No. 94) issued by the Canadian Commissioner of Customs on 15th April last, giving the following decisions by the Board of Customs relating to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported under the General Tariff into the Dominion as follows:—

Articles.	Tariff Item.	Rate of Duty under the General Tariff (a).
Chilian mills for grinding clay or other substances, whether for use in connection with steel converters or otherwise	315	25 %
Zinc, in form of rods...	277	25 %
Kremoline, used in the manufacture of confectionery	147	25 %
Tram silk, "boiled off" and not in the gum ...	447	20 %
Mimeographs (rotary and oscillating)	315	25 %
Pictorial cut outs, being lithographed pictures on card boards, embossed or not, and cut out by stamp or die or not	130	20 %
Refined cocoanut oil, not further manufactured than bleached or refined	447	20 %
Blotting paper pad, with celluloid cover, having advertisements thereon, but not illustrated ...	128	35 %
Stereotyping outfits, such as casting mould, cutting-off cylinder and imposing press, imported along with printing press valued at over 1,500 dols.	313	10 %
Electric motor and rheostat for use in connection with a printing press	294	25 %
Keystone rig and equipment for drilling wells ...	315	25 %
Powers' combined boring and drilling machine for drilling wells	315	25 %
Microscopes, valued at not less than 100 dols., adapted for and to be used in good faith for purposes of surgery	605	Free as surgical instruments
Soldering flux, in a fluid state (made from an acid and zinc)	447	20 %
Thomson's essence for coffee (manufactured by National Essence for Coffee Co.)...	89	2 cents per lb.
Lithographic presses	313	10 %

(a) If entitled to the benefits of the British Preferential Tariff, a reduction of ⅓rd of the above duties is allowed.

SOUTHERN NIGERIA PROTECTORATE.

Addition to Free List of Certain Building Materials.

The Board of Trade have received from the Southern Nigeria Government, a copy of an Order (No. 13 of 1904) issued under the Customs Tariff Proclamation of 1904 notifying that the following articles may be imported into the Protectorate free of duty (as building or roofing materials), viz:—

Ashes, clinkers, barbed wire, wire netting, corrugated iron sheeting, drain pipes, gutterings, pitch, oakum, tar and varnish.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

GAMBIA.

Revised Import Duties on Spirits.

The Board of Trade have received, from the Collector of Customs at Bathurst, Gambia, a copy of an Ordinance No. 5 of 1905, which has been enacted by the Governor of the Colony (with effect from 25th April, 1905) amending the Customs Tariff Ordinance, No. 1 of 1905, by reducing the standard of proof in respect of which Customs duties are payable on spirits imported into the Colony and Protectorate.

The following is a statement of the duties leviable under the amended Ordinance:—

Articles.	Rates of Import Duty.
	s. d.
Brandy and whisky of or under the strength of 12½ per cent. under proof by Syke's hydrometer, and so in proportion for any greater strength ... ... Per Imp. gall. or part thereof	4 0
Other spirits, except perfumes, of the strength of 12½ per cent. under proof by Syke's hydrometer, and so in proportion for any greater or lesser strength ... Per Imp. gall. or part thereof	4 0
All kinds of spirits sweetened so that the degree of strength cannot be ascertained by Syke's hydrometer— Per Imp. gall. or part thereof	4 0

NORWAY.

Tariff Modifications.

The following statement shows the principal modifications introduced into the Norwegian Customs Tariff by the proposals of the Customs committee, which, as stated in last week's "Board of Trade Journal," have been provisionally put into force:—

[Krona = 1*s.* 1⅛*d.* Kilog. = 2·2046 lb.].

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty.	
			Old.	New.
	Ammunition and explosives—		Kron.	Kron.
2	Powder, smokeless (including ballistite)	Kilog.	0·10	0·50
	Powder and explosives, other (including nitroglycerine and dynamite)	,,	0·10	0·12
3	Cartridges, filled, and wads*	,,	0·10	0·30
[356]	Fuses	,,	0·20	0·25

* Including weight of immediate packing.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
			Kron.	Kron.
	Tapes and ribbons of all kinds, even combined with india-rubber, gutta-percha, and the like—			
—	(*a*) Of silk, combined or not with other materials* ...	Kilog.	Various rates	5·00
—	(*b*) Other*	,,	,,	1·50
17	Bast, rope	,,	0·05	0·07
18	,, other (*i.e.* excluding hats, baskets, and packing material)	,,	0·15	0·20
20	Bone, manufactures of (except buttons)*...	,,	1·00	1·20
32	Ink, liquid*	,,	0·15	0·20
	Bookbindings [including backs and boards†]—			
[118]	Of paper	,,	0·70	As paper manufactures
[119]	Of other materials	,,	2·00	3·00
	Cotton yarn—			
36	Single, unbleached	,,	0·10	0·12
37	,, bleached	,,	0·12	0·15
38	,, dyed or printed ...	,,	0·25	0·30
39	Of two or more threads, unbleached	,,	0·10	0·15
41	Of two or more threads, dyed or printed	,,	0 30	0·35
	Cotton manufactures—			
43	Unbleached, undyed tissues (including sailcloth) weighing 180 grammes or more per square half-metre ...	,,	0·10	0·15
44	Fishing nets (nets and seines)	,,	0·12	0·23
45	Tissues, weighing 100 grammes or more per square half-metre, bleached, printed, dyed, or woven or dyed yarn	,,	0·40	0·50
46	Tissues combined with india-rubber, gutta-percha, and the like ... ... Belts of such tissues* ...	,,	1·10	1·50
47	Drills and damasks; also handkerchiefs, which cannot be tariffed under a class subject to a higher duty*	,,	0·70	0·80

* Including weight of immediate packing.

† Words in square brackets added in new tariff.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
	Cotton manufacturers—*cont.*		Kron.	Kron.
49	Hosiery—knitted, crocheted, netted, or woven—dyed or undyed; also ready-made clothing of hosiery, with or without buttons, lining, borders, suspenders, and the like, composed of a material subject to a higher duty than the clothing ...	Kilog.	1·10	1·25
51	Blond, lace	"	4·00	6·00
	"Other" manufactures‡—			
55	Dyed in several colours, not printed	"	0·65	0·75
	Entirely of one colour, or bleached—			
57	Other (*i.e.*, except bookbinders' cloth and underclothing) ...	"	0·40	0·55
58	Unbleached—			
	Wicks	"	0·20	0·60
	Other	"	0·20	0·25
	Note 4.—All manufactures which are not entirely unbleached are regarded as bleached.			
	Spirits of all kinds—			
60	In bottles or jars and other receptacles of a capacity of less than 50 litres, without regard to the strength ...	litre	2·40	2·65
61	In larger receptacles (duty calculated at a strength of 100 per cent.)	"	2·54	2·80
63	Acetic ether	kilog.	1·65	1·80
64	*Æther spirituosus* and other spirituous ethers, together with pure or compound ethers [and essences†], not separately mentioned elsewhere...	"	3·15	3·45
65	Aromatic waters, including aromatic vinegar*	"	2·95	3·25
66	Alcoholic varnishes and polishes	"	2·95	3·25
67	Ships' biscuits, of wheat or of wheat mixed with other cereals	"	0·10	0·20

* Including weight of immediate packing.
† Words in square brackets added in new tariff.
‡ *i.e.*, Manufactures not specially mentioned above or in other numbers of the tariff.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
			Kron.	Kron.
	Brushmakers' wares and brooms—			
72	Of rushes, twigs, or other vegetable materials—			
	Mounted in unpolished or unvarnished wood or iron, including all kinds of brushes for boilers and machines...	Kilog.	0·15	0·15
	Otherwise mounted ...	"		0·50
	Cocoa—			
76	Beans and husks	"	0·05	0·15
77	In powder [with addition of sugar†], cocoa paste in cakes, tablets, or the like, and chocolate*	"	0·40	0·45
	In powder [without added sugar†]*	"	0 40	0·35
78	Carbide of calcium and carbide of silicon	—	Free	15 % *ad val.*
	Celluloid, manufactured—			
81	Other (*i.e.*, other than clothing and buttons) manufactures not specially mentioned*...	kilog.	1·00	1·20
	Animals and animal comestibles—			
	Animals, living—	"		
92	Pigs and sucking pigs	live wt.	0·10	0·13
	But duty on each animal not to be less than ...	each	3·00	4·00
	Comestibles, in receptacles hermetically closed*—			
99	Corned beef, and fresh meat, in hermetically closed or air-tight receptacles ...	kilog.	0·20	0 30
	Other (except sardines and anchovies)	"	0·40	0·50
	Comestibles, other—			
	Oysters‡	"	not stated	0 20
101	Fish, pickled, seasoned, or preserved in oil; smoked, also caviar and preserved fish roe	"	0·40	0·50
103	Potted meat and soup tablets (*bouillon*), extract of meat, meat powders, meat peptone, and other preparations of meat, with or without admixtures, not separately mentioned*...	"	0·40	0·50

* Including weight of immediate packing.
† Words in square brackets added in new tariff.
‡ Including weight of receptacles.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
	Comestibles—*cont.*		Kron.	Kron.
104	Sausages and tongues, including collared beef	Kilog.	0·30	0·40
	Meat and bacon of all kinds—			
106	Other (*i.e.*, other than meat of the reindeer, woodcock, and ptarmigan), smoked.	"	0·30	0·40
107	Do., not smoked, hams ...	"	0·20	0·30
108	Do., other—			
	Meat, including intestines	"	0·10	0·10
	Bacon	"		0·15
[704]	Milk and cream—			
	Fresh	"	15% *ad val.*	0·01
	Condensed or sterilised* ...	"		0 12
	Milk powder (milk flour, nutrium)*	"		0·10
109	Poultry, dead	"	0·25	0·30
110 / 111	Vinegar and acetic acid, in casks	"	0·05† / 0·10‡	0·10
	Electric apparatus—			
114	Galvanic elements and parts thereof, including cases ...	"	not stated	0·10
115	Carbon electrodes for industrial use	—	15 % *ad val.*	Free
116 / 117	"Other" (*i.e.*, other than those separately mentioned in the Tariff), including telephonic and telegraphic apparatus, central tables, and parts thereof...	kilog.	0.35§ / 0·70¶	0·70
	Cases, portfolios, &c., for instruments; dressing, shaving, sewing, writing, and similar cases, with or without accessories; pocket books, drawing books, note books, paper-cases, albums, and purses*—			
119	Of linen and similar materials (even with silk lining) ...	"	2·00	2·00
119	Of skin or silk	"		3 50
—	Mixed paints in packets or boxes for home use*	"	not stated	0·20
122	Paints ground in oil, not separately mentioned	"	0·07	0·08
—	Other liquid colours not specially mentioned	"	not stated	0·05

* Including weight of immediate receptacle.
† Not containing more than 10 per cent. of acetic acid.
‡ Containing more than 10 per cent. of acetic acid.
§ Central and multiplex tables.
¶ "Other" telephonic and telegraphic apparatus.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
			Kron.	Kron.
—	Paint boxes with appurtenances; also paints in tubes, shells, glass, &c.	Kilog.	not stated	0·25
135	Fruits, fresh (other than apples and pears, grapes, oranges, lemons, &c.) and edible berries ..	"	0·12	0·15
142	Oranges and orange peel, preserved in brine	"	0·10	0·35
147	Timothy seed	"	0·10	0·15
148	Clover "	"	0·20	0·30
149	Scotch-fir seeds (*pinus sylvestris*)	"	1·00	2·00
150	Spruce " (*picea excelsa*)...	"	0·50	1·00
155	Yeast	"	0·20	0·30
	Glass and glass manufactures—			
157-8	Milk-jugs, jars, jam and pickle-pots, unpolished, not painted or decorated—			
	Of dark (green or brown) mass; also fishing-net floats	"	Free	0·02
	Of other mass	"	"	0·06
164	Patent glass pantiles, flooring tiles; also glass sheets for roofing or paving ...	"	"	0·06
	Glass in leaden frames ...	"	not stated	0·50
174	Grass rope	"	0·05	0·07
175	Other manufactures of grass (*i.e.*, other than baskets, mats for packing purposes, and rope) ...	"	0·10	0·20
	Vegetables, fresh*—			
201	Cabbages, kohl-rabi, and carrots	"	0·02	0·03
205	Other (except melons, asparagus, tomatoes, artichokes, and onions)...	"	0·10	0·20
208	Other vegetables (except those preserved in hermetically closed receptacles)—			
	Dried	"	0·05	0·05
	Other than dried	"		0·15
	NEW NOTE.—Vegetables preserved in sugar pay duty as preserved fruits.			

* Including weight of immediate packing.

(*To be continued.*)

NETHERLANDS.

Importation, &c., of Wood that has been used for Cattle-stabling.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that a Dutch Royal Decree has recently been issued prohibiting the importation into, and transportation through, Holland of wood that has been used for cattle-stabling, from countries to be specified by the Minister of Waterways, Trade, and Commerce.

In accordance with the terms of the Decree, an official notice has been issued applying the prohibition to such wood (with certain exceptions) when imported from Belgium.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

FRENCH INDO-CHINA.

Suppression of the Export Duty on Pepper.

The "Journal Officiel de l'Indo-Chine Française" for the 23rd March contains a Decree, promulgating in Indo-China a French Presidential Decree of the 25th December, 1904, by which the export duty on pepper is abolished in that Protectorate.

SPAIN.

Forthcoming Eclipse of the Sun. Duty free admission of Scientific Apparatus.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" for the 11th May contains the text of a Royal Order providing for the duty-free admission into Spain of instruments and accessories carried by foreign scientists deputed to observe the eclipse of the sun on the 30th August next.

Persons intending to take advantage of this privilege should communicate with the Spanish Ministry of Commerce, mentioning their names and the Custom House at which they propose to introduce their instruments.

Rate of Exchange for Adjustment of Customs Duties payable in Gold.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 16th May contains a Royal Order notifying that the average rate of exchange (premium of exchange on Paris) during the first fortnight of May was 31·77 per cent., and that the corresponding reduction in payments of Customs duties which have to be made in gold during the second fortnight of the present month is to be 24 per cent.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Customs Decisions.

The following is the substance of some Decisions affecting the application of the United States Customs Tariff, which have recently been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington :—

Dirt in nuts.—In assessing duty on shelled almonds, walnuts, and filberts, which are made dutiable by paragraphs 269 and 270 of the Tariff at so much per pound, no allowance is made for dirt or other impurities contained in the goods.

Capacity of bottles—still wine—samples.—Under the provisions of paragraph 296 of the Tariff, bottles of still wine containing less than a pint are dutiable as if they contained 1 pint, irrespective of the actual quantity of wine in them.

The fact that such bottles of wine were intended as samples is immaterial, and does not relieve them from the payment of duty.

Omissions or mistakes in protests.—The Board of General Appraisers may not disregard omissions or mistakes in protests,

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

which may have misled the collector, and allow them to be corrected when reviewing his decision. If the protest fails to satisfy the requirements of Section 14 of the Customs Administrative Act of 10th June, 1890, the action of the collector should be affirmed.

Charges for cartage and labour under Pure Food Law.—The expenses for cartage and labour in connection with imported merchandise detained for inspection and analysis under the Pure Food Law of 3rd March, 1903, are to be borne by the Government and not by the importer.

Blown-glass blanks, which are produced by blowing glass into a mould and breaking off the surplus portion, and are incomplete, being suitable only to be placed in the hands of glass cutters to be finished, are not dutiable as "blown glassware" under paragraph 100 of the Tariff, but under the provision in paragraph 112 for "all glass or manufactures of glass not otherwise provided for," at the rate of 45 per cent. *ad valorem.*

Rupee.—The value of the rupee is to be taken as 32·44⅓ cents in United States currency.

Embroidered hosiery—Embroideries—Specific designation.—The specific enumeration in paragraph 318 of the Tariff of "hose and half hose," does not remove those articles from the operation of the provision in paragraph 339 that "no wearing apparel . . . . when embroidered . . . . shall pay duty at a less rate than that imposed in any schedule of this Act upon any embroideries of the materials of which such embroidery is composed." Such embroidery rate applies when greater than that to which the merchandise would otherwise be subject under paragraph 318.

Lithographic prints—Folding pictures.—In regard to certain folding pictures, composed of lithographic prints, of which the substantial portions are of one thickness, and relatively small portions consist of little figures of an incidental or ornamental character and of a different thickness, it has been decided that in assessing duty under paragraph 400 of the Tariff, the prints should be classified according to the thickness of the substantial parts.

Protest against reliquidation.—Where the collector has reliquidated an entry pursuant to a decision of the Board of General Appraisers, the importer is precluded from again litigating by a second protest matters which were or could have been determined upon the first protest, such matters being *res adjudicata.*

Merchandise entered for immediate transportation—Entry for consumption, when to be made.—Merchandise imported at one port and there entered for immediate transportation to another port may not be entered for consumption at the latter before reaching the limits of that port.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Also the following:—

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
		Dols. Cts.
Mushrooms dried merely by the evaporation of the sap; dutiable as vegetables in their natural state...	257	25 % *ad val.*
Small bells of metal used to attach to toy animals, reins and rattles; dutiable as toys	418	35 % "
Flat wire heddles	137	45 % " and lb. 0 01¼
Glass ash receivers painted, and decorated on the under surface with cigar bands, to which a sheet of lead foil is pasted with the object of enhancing the ornamental effect, the whole covered with woollen cloth for protective purposes	100	60 % *ad val.*
Paperhangings.—An article composed of cotton and gilt paper, the latter being the component material of chief value, and chiefly if not exclusively used as wall paper; dutiable as paperhangings	402	25 % "
Glass powder.—Glass of various colours crushed to a coarse powder and evidently intended for decorative purposes: dutiable as a manufacture of glass not otherwise provided for	112	45 % "
Water colour paints in boxes fitted with brushes, the entirety being invariably and universally dealt in by the wholesale trade as "paints"; dutiable as entireties	58 or 418	30 % " or 35 % "
Embossed cards coloured by spraying, and known as "box tops"; dutiable as manufactures of paper not specially provided for, for the reason that they are not printed either by lithographic process or from type...	407	35 % "
Unfinished watch swivels. — Brass swivels, each 1 inch in length, in a rough condition and not suitable for use in the construction of watch chains or other articles of jewellery without undergoing further processes of manufacture, the same being also adapted for employment in the production of chains for dogs, fans, chatelaine bags, &c. ...	193	45 % "
Herring naturally frozen immediately after being caught; dutiable as fresh herrings	260	lb. 0 00¼

Prohibition of the Importation of Insect Pests.

An Act of the United States Congress, approved 3rd March, 1905, prohibits the importation into the United States of the gypsy moth, brown-tail moth, leopard moth, plum curculio, hop plant-louse, boll weevil, or any of them in a live state, or other insect in a live state which is notoriously injurious to cultivated crops, including vegetables, field crops, bush fruits, orchard trees, forest trees, or shade trees; or the eggs, pupæ, or larvæ of any insect injurious as aforesaid, except when shipped for scientific purposes under regulations to be laid down by the Secretary of Agriculture.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Duty on Imports from Cuba.

Article 2 of the Cuban Reciprocity Treaty of December, 1903.* providing that the products of the soil or industry of Cuba imported into the United States "shall be admitted at a reduction of 20 per cent. of the rates of duty thereon as provided by the Tariff Act of the United States approved 24th July, 1897, or as may be provided by any *tariff law* of the United States subsequently enacted," has reference to the rates of duty prescribed by any *general* tariff law which may supersede the present Dingley Act. and not to a special law like that (†) according a reduction of 25 per cent. to imports from the Philippine Islands.

New Sub-Port of Entry.

South Bend (Wash.) has been designated a sub-port of entry in the district of Puget Sound, and the sub-port of Gray's Harbour in the same district is discontinued.

Drawback on Exported Flour—Definition of "Value."

With reference to the notices which appeared in the "Journal" for the 16th and 30th March last relating to a drawback on the exportation from the United States of flour and by-products manufactured wholly from imported wheat, or from mixed American and foreign wheat, it is to be noted that, according to a recent circular of the United States Treasury Department the "value" of flour and by-products at the time and place of manufacture for the purpose of liquidating drawback entries, means the market value of the several grades and brands of flour and the several by-products (including screenings), as sold in the usual wholesale quantities in the domestic market at the time and place of manufacture.

CHILE.

Customs Decisions.

The "Boletin Oficial" of the Chilean Customs Department for the 25th February contains the following Decisions affecting the application of the Customs Tariff:—

Football boots of calf-skin, with leather sole, or with sole of paper compressed with oil, are dutiable under No. 101 of the Valuation Tariff (duty 60 per cent. on a valuation of 8 pesos (‡) per kilog.).

Pails of galvanised iron are dutiable at the rate of 25 per cent. on a valuation of 30 cents per kilog.

* See "Board of Trade Journal" for 31st December, 1903, p. 640.
† See "Board of Trade Journal" for 27th March, 1902, p. 603.
‡ The value of the *peso* for Customs purposes is 1*s.* 6*d.*

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

Heaters and coppers for laundries are dutiable at the rate of 15 per cent. on a valuation of 30 cents per kilog.

Paste shoe blacking of fine quality is dutiable under No. 1,171 of the Valuation Tariff (35 per cent. on a valuation of 2 pesos per kilog.).

Steam boilers, even though not imported in actual conjunction with a machine, are entitled to duty-free entry as part of the machine if it be proved that they really form part of the said machine. Spare boilers imported separately pay an import duty of 15 per cent. *ad valorem* on a valuation of 40 cents per kilog.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Tariff Classification of Tonics, &c., with Wine Base.

The Board of Trade are informed, through the Foreign Office, that tonics and other products containing quinine, whose base is wine, will be classified by the Argentine Customs as "wine tonics," under No. 247 or 248 of the Tariff, according as they are imported in casks or demijohns or in bottles —*i.e.*, at 30 cts. per litre, or at 25 cts. per bottle, as the case may be.

SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Central South African Railways in 1904.

From an extract of the report of the Central South African Railways published in the "Cape Argus," it appears that the total length of railway (including double and treble track) open for traffic at the end of last year was 1,540 miles. There were 403 miles under construction, and 711 projected. When all the branches are finished, the approximate length of the system will be 2,654 miles.

Taking through and local passenger traffic together, 5,468,366 passengers were carried, yielding a revenue of 1,112,821*l.*, as compared with 4,224,377 passengers carried during 1903, yielding a revenue of 1,268,344*l.*

During the year the tonnage hauled was 4,238,815, yielding 3,045,332*l.*, compared with 4,137,952 tons hauled during 1903, yielding 3,663,908*l.*

It is stated that three-fifths of the total tonnage, through and local, consists of coal traffic, chiefly for the gold mines.

The question of adopting electric traction on the Springs Randfontein section is under consideration.

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Shipping and Transport.

RUSSIA.

Notice to Shipowners: Charter Parties to load at Batoum.

In his recent report, H.M. Consul at Batoum (Mr. P. Stevens) states that it has been the practice for many years past for the charterers of steamers coming to Batoum in order to load petroleum cargoes in cases, to bind, by charter-party, the owner of a vessel to employ the stevedore selected by their agents or the shippers of the cargo at Batoum to stow it, the ship paying for the stowage of the cargo at a certain rate stipulated for in the charter; now, however, in consequence of the enhanced price of labour, it has become a matter of utter impossibility to get the work done at the rates agreed to, and the shippers, finding it no longer possible to furnish the required labour under this head at the prices named, refuse to select a stevedore, and leave to the option of the master to secure the services of a person of this kind on the best terms he can arrange. It will be well that when chartering vessels to load at Batoum owners should bear this in mind, and protect themselves against a contingency of the kind, together with the question of the unreasonable delay to which their steamers have throughout the past year been subjected, and for which they have, in many instances, been unable to obtain pecuniary satisfaction. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,366.)

NETHERLANDS.

Conveyance of Petroleum on the Rhine.

The "Nederlandsche Staatscourant" of 18th May publishes certain regulations governing the transport of petroleum and petroleum distillates in tank vessels on the Rhine, which have now received the Royal assent and came into force on the second day after their publication.

These regulations may be consulted in original at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

ITALY—BRAZIL—ARGENTINA.

New S.S. Service.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) reports the inauguration of a new s.s. service between Naples, Brazil, and the River Plate.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY—ARGENTINE—URUGUAY.

New Service from Fiume to Monte Video and Buenos Ayres.

Referring to the note on p. 227 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd February, H.M. Consul at Trieste (Mr. J. B. Spence) reports that the Austrian Lloyd Steamship Company, in agreement with the Adria Steamship Company of Fiume, have arranged for their Santos steamers to extend their voyages in future to Monte Video and Buenos Ayres.

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MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Output of Minerals (other than Gold) in Western Australia.

A supplement to the "Government Gazette" of Western Australia contains statistics of the output of minerals (other than gold*) in that State during the year 1904 and previous years, from which the following table has been compiled:—

Minerals.	1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Tons.	£	Tons.	£
Black tin	817	55,890	855	58,817
Copper ore	20,526	56,541	3,969	25,180
Ironstone	220	88	1,442	577
Coal	133,427	69,128	138,550	67,174
Limestone	1,280	178	13,397	1,699

SARAWAK AND SADONG DISTRICT OF BORNEO.

Geological Report: Gold and Coal.

A report has been prepared by the Government Geologist of the Federated Malay States (Mr. J. B. Scrivenor) on the geology of the Residency of Sarawak and of the Sadong District, Borneo, with special reference to the occurrence of gold and coal, the object being, firstly, to discover reasons for the more profitable results attained in gold mining in Sarawak compared with Pahang and Negri Sembilan; and, secondly, to study the occurrence of coal in Sarawak, in order to gauge the possibilities of payable coal existing in the Federated Malay States.

Mr. Scrivenor finds that although geological conditions are generally similar, the ore worked in Borneo admits of a much cheaper method of working than that in the Federated Malay States, but he is hopeful, though not confident, of finding such ore in the latter country. Mr. Scrivenor is doubtful whether any considerable coal deposit could have survived in the Federated Malay States as a commercial asset, unless as graphite.

The report referred to has been issued as a supplement to the "Selangor Government Gazette," and may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

* For production of gold during the years 1903 and 1904, see pp. 421-2 of the "Board of Trade Journal," dated 2nd March last.

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

RUSSIA.

Petroleum Production in 1904.

H.M. Consul at Batoum (Mr. P. Stevens) reports that the actual production of crude petroleum at Baku during the year 1904 was in excess of the production for the year 1903, and if matters connected with the industry had worked smoothly during the year, there is very little doubt but that this excess would have been more apparent than it is. In view of the disturbed condition of affairs, however, prevalent during the year in the localities where the wells are situated, and the frequent fires that occurred during the same period, by which large quantities of oil were destroyed, and the subsequent somewhat prolonged strikes, during which the output of oil, except from flowing wells, entirely ceased, the production was brought down to only a little over 2,000,000 barrels in excess of the production of 1903, viz., 73,705,852 barrels against 71,626,611 barrels.

Coal Deposits in Caucasus.

In the same report, Mr. Stevens says that the coal deposits of Tkvartcheli, in the province of Kutais, and about 30 miles distant inland from the open Bay of Otchemtchiri, have been much talked about for several years past, but owing to want of capital and lack of initiative and energy both on the part of those into whose hands they originally fell, as well as their subsequent owners, nothing has yet been done with a view to their development. The coalfields in question are very extensive, and are supposed to contain a good quality of steam coal approximating to Cardiff. Their distance from the sea, however, in a very mountainous and difficult country, renders them somewhat impracticable, although the obstacles to be overcome are not of so serious a nature as to prevent the successful working of the coal mines.

It is believed that a Russian company has been recently formed, which is on the point of taking up the working of these deposits. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,366.)

FRANCE—MADAGASCAR.

Gold Export, 1904.

H.M. Consul at Antananarivo (Mr. T. P. Porter) reports that according to returns issued by the Mining Department of Madagascar, the value of gold exported from the island in 1904 was 7,380,000 francs, an equivalent of 2,460 kilogrammes, at the rate of 3,000 francs per kilo.

GREECE.

Export of Naxos Emery.

H.M. Consul at Syra (Mr. W. H. Cottrell) reports that the total quantity of Naxos emery stone exported in 1904 from the Government depôt at Syra amounted to 6,353 metric tons, representing a value of 27,064*l.*, of which 2,780 tons were shipped to Rotterdam, 1,203 tons to New York, 1,050 tons to Havre, 920 tons to Liverpool and 400 tons to Philadelphia. The export of this article in 1904 was the largest for many years past, and exceeded the previous year by 540 tons. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,367.)

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YARNS AND TEXTILES.

GERMANY.

Artificial Silk.

H.M. Consul at Stettin (Mr. R. Bernal) states in his report for 1904 that artificial silk is manufactured by the "Fürst Guido Donnersmarcksche Kunstseiden und Acetatwerke" at Sydowsaue, near Stettin. The raw material used in the production of the silk is wood cellulose, caustic hydrate of soda, sulphate of ammonia, chloride of lime and sulphuric acid. The material is forwarded to Saxony, Westphalia and Rhineland, where it is manufactured into coloured ribbons, &c. The process is a British patent, and the standard machinery was imported from the United Kingdom. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,358.)

CHINA.

Transit Trade in Cotton Yarn *viâ* Mengtzu.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul-General at Yünnan-Fu (Mr. W. H. Wilkinson) forwarding copy of a preliminary report on the trade of Yünnan Province for the year 1904, from which the following extract is taken:—

The once flourishing trade through Pakhoi has, it is believed, finally disappeared, yielding to the greater advantages of the Mengtzŭ route.

The principal article sent into the interior under transit pass from Mengtzŭ, as from T'engyüeh, is cotton yarn. The figures for 1904, as compared with 1902, were as follows:—

—	1902.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Piculs.	Taels.	Piculs.	Taels.
Indian	84,517	2,390,065	93,864	3,360,918
Japanese	2,014	70,013	1,913	76,219
Tongking	670	19,184	2,651	97,160
Total	87,201	2,479,262	98,428	3,534,297

Picul = 133⅓ lbs. av.; average value of Haikwan tael in 1902 was 2*s.* 7½*d.* and in 1904 2*s.* 10¾*d.*

The full text of the report may be consulted at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 20th May, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.* 10*d.*
Barley	24*s.* 8*d.*
Oats	18*s.* 5*d.*

For further particulars see p. 373.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 374, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 20th May, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding weeks of 1904.

ITALY.

International Agricultural Exhibition at Turin.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) reports that an International Agricultural Exhibition will be held at Turin during August and September this year, under the auspices of the "Società Promotrice di Belle Arti." The offices of the exhibition are situated at "34 *via* Mazzini, Turin."

ARGENTINA.

Cotton Cultivation.

H.M. Consul at Rosario (Mr. H. M. Mallet) reports that the cultivation of cotton in Argentina is undergoing a series of trials. In the northern part of the province of Santa Fé, as the result of one such trial, a large area was planted, and samples of the recent crop were forwarded to the United Kingdom. The report on these samples, says Mr. Mallet, is anxiously looked for, and if favourable, cotton should figure prominently on the list of exports from Argentina in the near future. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series,* 3,362.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 18th May, 1905, was 92,677, and the number imported during the 20 weeks ended the 18th May was 1,761,228 (including 2,137 bales British West Indian and 919 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 18th May, 1905, 5,771 bales, and for the 20 weeks, 193,501.

For further details see p. 373.

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Miscellaneous.

UNITED KINGDOM—*continued.*

Fishery Statistics, April, 1905.

The following statement shows the quantity and value of fish landed on the English and Welsh, Scotch, and Irish Coasts during the month and four months ended 30th April, 1905, compared with the corresponding periods of the year 1904:—

—	Month of April.				Four Months ended 30th April.			
	1905.		*1904.*		1905.		*1904.*	
	Quantity.	Value.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	Quantity.	Value.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
England and Wales—	Cwts.	£	*Cwts.*	*£*	Cwts.	£	*Cwts.*	*£*
Fish, excluding shell fish	815,022	642,357	*661,389*	*524,185*	2,507,533	2,168,836	*2,513,110*	*2,006,477*
Shell fish	—	27,282	—	*27,936*	—	89,347	—	*90,133*
Total Value ...	—	669,639	—	*552,121*	—	2,258,183	—	*2,096,610*
Scotland—								
Fish, excluding shell fish	224,645	119,927	*183,239*	*106,065*	1,283,719	563,625	*1,308,593*	*575,819*
Shell fish	—	6,731	—	*6,668*	—	20,139	—	*22,088*
Total Value ...	—	126,658	—	*112,733*	—	583,764	—	*597,907*
Ireland—								
Fish, excluding shell fish	26,020	18,283	*60,551*	*27,175*	74,645	52,547	*120,734*	*61,916*
Shell fish	—	700	—	*677*	—	2,704	—	*2,296*
Total Value ...	—	18,983	—	*27,852*	—	55,251	—	*64,212*

NOTE.—All the above figures are subject to correction in the annual returns.

GAMBIA.

Trade in 1904.

An extraordinary issue of the "Government Gazette" of the Colony of the Gambia, dated 13th April, contains a report by the Collector of Customs relating to the trade of the Colony during the year 1904, from which the following particulars have been extracted:—

From and To	Imports.		Exports.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	142,560	109,888	22,080	13,781
Sierra Leone	42,957	71,713	1,389	6,932
Other British Colonies ...	5,051	152	9,689	8,079
France	105,068	96,119	276,114	231,774
Germany	14,163	13,610	—	5,413
Other foreign countries ...	31,264	14,667	24,745	45,304
Total ... ... £	341,063	306,149	334,017	311,283

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Miscellaneous.

GAMBIA—*continued.*

Raw Cotton.

The principal article of export in 1904 was ground nuts (229,287*l.*), rubber (2,446*l.*) coming next. The item of raw cotton shows an increase of 58,817 lbs. The amount stated to have been shipped from Bathurst is correct, but owing to the high price paid that year in order to stimulate the planters to grow cotton it was brought across from French Territory in large quantities and sold locally.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Oil Factory at Trieste.

A despatch has been received from H.M. Consul at Trieste (Mr. J. Bowring Spence) reporting that that city is to be enriched by a new industry. A company has been formed for the manufacture of oil—including cotton-seed oil.

VENEZUELA.

Coinage of Five Million Bolivares.

The Acting British Consul at Caracas (Mr. W. A. Andral) has forwarded copy of an official decree authorising the coinage of five millions of bolivares:—2 millions in gold coins of 20 bolivares; 1½ millions in silver coins of 5 bolivares, and 1½ millions in silver coins of 2 bolivares. The money is destined to establish a National Mortgage Bank.

A notice respecting the coinage of Venezuelan silver money in Paris will be found on p. 721 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th September, 1900.

ECUADOR.

Trade in 1903.

The following particulars as to the trade of Ecuador are taken from "L'Economiste Français" of 6th May:—

Year.	Imports.	Exports.
	Sucres.	Sucres.
1901	15,126,281	16,323,155
1902	14,442,984	18,106,038
1903	11,069,814	18,626,354

The large decline in imports during 1903 is partly attributable to the closing of ports to foreign goods for several weeks owing to a bubonic plague scare.

The chief countries from which the imports were drawn during 1903 were:—United Kingdom, 3,196,000 sucres; United States, 2,797,000 sucres; Germany, 2,000,000 sucres; Spain, 443,000 sucres; Italy, 441,000 sucres. The exports were distributed as follows:—France, 4,915,000 sucres; United States, 4,805,000 sucres; Germany, 3,808,000 sucres; United Kingdom, 2,328,000 sucres; Spain, 1,206,000 sucres; Italy, 192,000 sucres.

Sucre = about 2*s.*

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the **Number** of **Bales** of **Cotton Imported** and **Exported** at the **Various Ports of the United Kingdom** during the Week and 20 Weeks ended 18th May, 1905 :—

	Week ended 18th May, 1905.	20 Weeks ended 18th May, 1905.	Week ended 18th May, 1905.	20 Weeks ended 18th May, 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	76,963	1,458,537	4,484	137,184
Brazilian	5,340	27,946	—	507
East Indian	100	20,306	—	5,855
Egyptian	10,019	227,337	1,107	48,712
Miscellaneous	255	27,102*	180	1,243†
Total	92,677	1,761,228	5,771	193,501

* Including 2,137 bales British West Indian and 919 bales British West African
† " 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the **Average Price** of **British Corn**, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 20th May, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 20th May, 1905	30	10	24	8	18	5
Corresponding week in—						
1898	47	9	26	5	21	5
1899	25	2	23	8	17	8
1900	25	5	23	11	18	2
1901	27	7	24	1	19	8
1902	31	6	25	4	22	6
1903	27	10	23	7	18	5
1904	26	9	20	4	16	7

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 20th May, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 20th May, 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	8,364	*7,347*
Sheep and lambs	"	3,325	*4,050*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	199	*326*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	104,554	*89,102*
Mutton	"	63,110	*85,930*
Pork	"	3,795	*6,417*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	100,217	*90,844*
Beef	"	3,564	*1,902*
Hams	"	28,906	*25,599*
Pork	"	2,979	*4,689*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	11,859	*14,936*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	10,075	*16,805*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	82,140	*84,199*
Margarine	"	21,019	*17,349*
Cheese	"	15,105	*26,672*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	26	*106*
" condensed	"	15,475	*15,244*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	29	*114*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	443,897	*432,059*
Poultry	Value £	8,283	*6,713*
Game	"	250	*2,684*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	22,394	*221*
Lard	"	33,928	*31,229*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,691,800	*2,392,600*
Wheat meal and flour	"	162,600	*107,300*
Barley	"	421,900	*475,900*
Oats	"	395,000	*143,700*
Peas	"	44,418	*55,710*
Beans	"	29,900	*21,150*
Maize or Indian corn	"	406,900	*563,400*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	32,209	*37,920*
Apricots and peaches	"	80	*14*
Bananas	Bunches.	86,395	*76,512*
Cherries	Cwts.	6,272	*11,469*
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	99	*413*
Grapes	"	189	*299*
Lemons	"	22,832	*28,351*
Oranges	"	83,239	*171,371*
Pears	"	1,668	*559*
Plums	"	—	—
Strawberries.	"	223	*840*
Unenumerated	"	2,062	*1,919*
Hay...	Tons.	2,028	*2,322*
Straw	"	3,300	*3,004*
Moss Litter*	"	2,278	—
Hops	Cwts.	246	*1,718*
Locust Beans	"	7,920	*76,140*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	155,608	*288,541*
Potatoes	Cwts.	109,222	*215,667*
Tomatoes	"	20,090	*28,040*
Unenumerated	Value £	8,615	*10,889*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	1,270	*2,725*
Preserved by canning...	"	4,561	*3,644*

* Not shown in 1904.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of April, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* 1*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the May issue:—State of the Labour Market in April; Tenth Abstract of Labour Statistics; Emigration and Immigration in 1904; Relief of the Unemployed; Coal Exports, 1900–1904; and recent Conciliation Cases.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the Annual Series issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,374. Trade of Kerman, 1904-5.

Notes on the itinerary of the commercial mission from India.

Improvement in postal service with the interior.

Prospects of copper mining.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,375. Trade of Pemba, 1904.

General trade prosperous owing to good clove season.

Value of principal imports, with countries of origin.

Importance of "kanga" (a description of printed coloured cotton piece-goods) trade.

Conditions in the clove industry.

Comparative tables of imports and exports.

No. 3,376. Trade of Khorassan, 1903-4.

Notes on imports from and exports to United Kingdom, Russia and Afghanistan.

Increasing consumption of tea. Larger imports of Russian piece-goods, petroleum, iron and steel, &c.

Expansion of cotton cultivation.

Comparative advantages of various trade routes.

Openings for British trade.

Statistics of trade with India, Russia and Afghanistan.

No. 3,377. Trade of Japan, 1904.

Trade and industry stated to be in a thoroughly healthy condition both before and since the outbreak of war.

Large increase in imports from United Kingdom, notably coal, textiles, steamships, locomotives and machinery.

Notes and statistics regarding principal importations from other countries.

Notes on the silk trade.

Position of British shipping: prospects of diminution.

Effect of recent legislation on foreign capital.

Comparative tables of principal imports and exports.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Trade with Siberia. Report on the Condition and Prospects of British Trade. [*Cd.* 2,518.] *Price* 1*s.* 3*d.*

This is the report of Mr. H. Cooke, the Special Commissioner appointed by the Commercial Intelligence Committee of the Board of Trade to enquire into the condition and prospects of British trade in Siberia. The report covers the portion of Mr. Cooke's journey from Moscow to Irkutsk, including such digressions off the main route as appeared desirable; it portrays the general conditions of the country as indicative of openings for trade and industry. Gold and other mining is dealt with in detail.

A note prefixed to the report states that the Committee are aware that the conditions of trade in these regions are at present materially affected by the war, but they are nevertheless of opinion that the Report may be of value to British traders in anticipation of the restoration of conditions more favourable to commerce.

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Government Publications.

Railway Returns. Returns relating to the Railways of the United Kingdom for 1903 (*Preliminary Statement*). [*Cd.* 2,517.] *Price* ½*d.*

From this return, which has been prepared in the Commercial, Labour and Statistical Department of the Board of Trade, it appears that the total number of passengers, exclusive of season ticket holders, carried during 1904 amounted to 1,198,548,000, viz., 34,951,000 first class, 71,326,000 second class, and 1,092,271,000 third class passengers. The quantity of minerals and general merchandise conveyed was 449,805,000 tons. The total gross receipts amounted to 111,828,000*l.*; the total net receipts to 42,639,000*l.* The length of line open for traffic was 22,600 miles, an increase of 165 miles on the preceding year. These figures are given subject to revision in the Annual Returns.

Report on the Working of the Boiler Explosions Acts, 1882 *and* 1890, *with Appendices.* [2,513]. *Price* 2½*d.*

This is the twenty-second report to the Secretary of the Board of Trade on the working of the Boiler Explosions Acts 1882 and 1890, and covers the twelve months ending 30th June, 1904. Under the provisions of the Acts above quoted, 42 preliminary enquiries and 18 formal investigations have been held during the period under review. In 13 out of the 18 cases in which formal investigations were held, blame was attached to the owner of the boiler or to his employé, and in two cases the persons who advised the owner as regards the efficiency of the boiler were blamed. In no case was blame attached to any public association or company who undertake the inspection of boilers. During the twelve months 19 persons were killed and 45 injured by boiler explosions, these figures being below the average.

Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland. Fourth Annual Report, 1903-4. [*Cd.* 2,509.] *Price* 1*s.* 11*d.*

This publication contains, in addition to the statistics of the Department, details of its operations in agricultural instruction and improvement of live stock; the results of its special investigations in tobacco growing, improvement in creamery management, &c.; a summary of the year's work in Irish technical instruction; and a report on the sea and inland fisheries, particularly the salmon hatcheries.

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Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—	
	Austria-Hungary:	
3343	Finances and General Economic Conditions 1900–04	6½*d.*
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3327	Antwerp—Shipping ...1904	7½*d.*
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3326	Baltimore 1904	1½*d.*
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			3376	Khorassan ... 1903–04	2*d.*

Treaty Series.

The following numbers of the Treaty Series issued since the 1st January, 1905, may also be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

No.		Price.
	EUROPE— **France:**	
3	Agreements between the United Kingdom and France referring to Arbitration the question of the Grant of the French flag to Muscat Dhows...	½*d.*
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	AMERICA, NORTH— Mexico:	
4	Convention between the United Kingdom and Mexico respecting Postal Rates upon letters passing between New Zealand and Mexico	½*d.*
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1	Accession of Cuba to arrangements respecting false indications of origin on goods and the International Registration of Trade Marks	½*d.*
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13	Convention between the United Kingdom and Japan respecting commercial relations between Japan and India	½*d.*

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1905, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

Annual.

No.	Place.	Price.
—	Cyprus	2½*d.*
444	Basutoland...	3*d.*
445	Leeward Islands	2½*d.*
446	St. Vincent...	2*d.*

Miscellaneous.

No.	Place.	Price.
29	Ceylon. Reports on the results of the Mineral Survey in 1903–4	2½*d.*
30	Pitcairn Island. Report by Mr. R. T. Simons	1*d.*

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.—In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Among the branches of work now carried on by the Imperial Institute at South Kensington are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which is exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Imperial Institute Bulletin," issued quarterly, contains information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

March, 1905.

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SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

March, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

To Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

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Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. ...

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
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Evered & Co., London and Birmingham ... ...
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Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London ...

Bellows—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...

Bevelled and Bent Glass—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

WILKINSON, HEYWOOD & CLARK,

LIMITED,

Proprietors of DAVID STORER and SONS

EXPORT DEPARTMENT:

STORER'S WHARF, POPLAR, LONDON, E.

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VARNISH, PAINTS and COLOURS.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

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Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

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Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

WILLIAM BLYTHE & CO.

LIMITED,

CHURCH, LANCASHIRE,

MANUFACTURERS OF

HIGH-TEST SULPHATE of SODA or SALT CAKE, in Bulk or Ground & Packed;

SULPHURIC ACID;

HYDROCHLORIC ACID; NITRIC ACID; ARSENIC ACID, sp. gr. 2·000, and Anhydrous

CHLORIDE OF ZINC; SULPHATE OF ZINC;

TIN CRYSTALS;

BICHLORIDE OF TIN OR STANNIC CHLORIDE;

STANNATE OF SODA;

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CRESCENT BM&Co. BRAND.

TRADE MARK.

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EQUAL TO 98 PER CENT. CARBONATE OF SODA.

The Strongest and Purest Form of the Article in the Market, and therefore the most Economical for the use of Printers, Bleachers, Wool Scourers, Dyers, Glass, Paper, and Soap Makers.

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Strengths, 76/77 %, 70/72 %, 60/62 %

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BICARBONATE OF SODA.

Refined and Recrystallised. The purest and cheapest in the Market.

CONCENTRATED CRYSTAL SODA

(SESQUI CARBONATE),

BY FAR THE PUREST AND CHEAPEST FORM OF WASHING SODA.

1 lb. Concentrated Crystal Soda does the work of 2 lbs. Washing Soda. Constant composition in all climates. Readily soluble. Harmless to the finest fabrics and to the skin.

SODA CRYSTALS of the Finest Quality.

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NORTHWICH, CHESHIRE.

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TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

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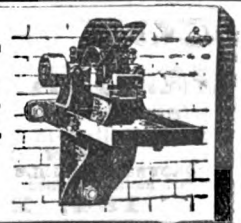

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Perlam, Herbert W., Ltd., Floodgate-street Works, Birmingham ... ...

Watch and Clock Manufacturers—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 & 34, Cockspur-street, London ... ...

Water Meters, Sluice Valves, Steam Valves and Fire Appliances—
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Harburg & Vienna India-rubber Co., London, E.C...
Piggott Bros. & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Waterproof Paint Manufacturers—
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Water Taps—
Palatine Engineering Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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Connolly, J. W. & T., Ltd., London, N.... ... ...

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Narborough, F., 42 & 44, Lombard-street, Birmingham ... ...

White Lead Manufacturers—
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Crawford, Daniel, & Son, Ltd., Glasgow 4
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Wood Stains—
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Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E ... ...

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THE Board of Trade Journal

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

JUNE 1, 1905.

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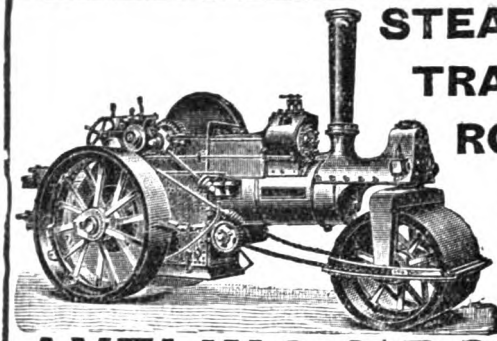

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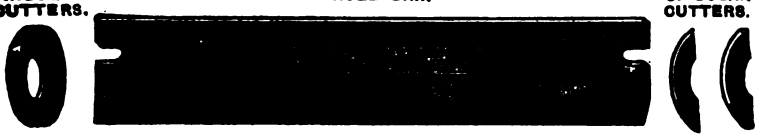

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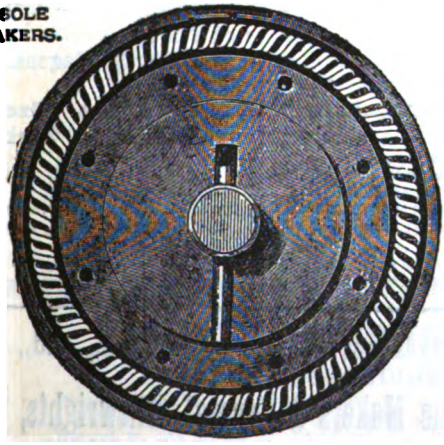

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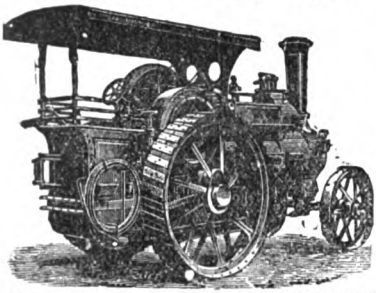

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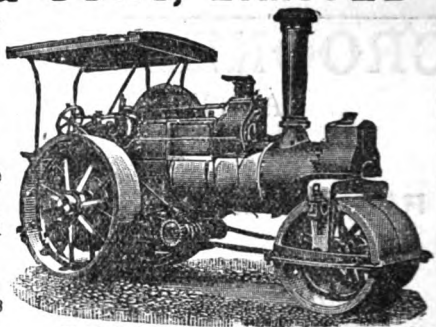

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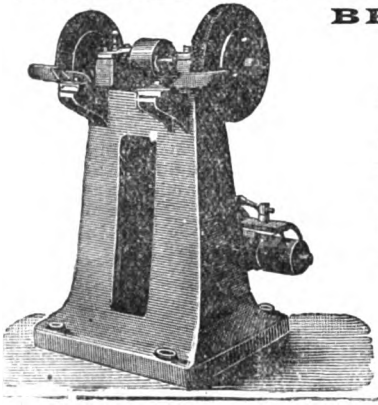

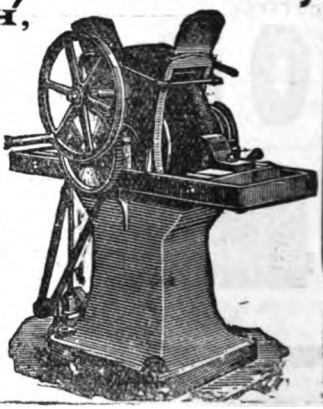

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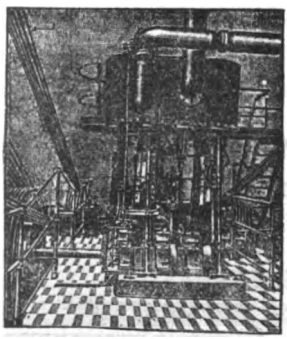

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OLIVER & BOYD, EDINBURGH; or,
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I.—ANNUAL PUBLICATIONS:—

Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions for the Year 1903 compared with the four preceding years. Volume I. [Cd. 2043/04.] Price 7*s.* 1*d.* Volume II. [Cd. 2081/04.] Price 5*s.*

Annual Statement of the Navigation and Shipping of the United Kingdom for the Year 1903. [Cd. 2122/04.] Price 3*s.* 2*d.*

Bankruptcy. Report for the Year 1903. [312/04.] Price 9d.

Coal Exports for 1904. [112/1905.] Price 4*d.*

Coal Tables.—Statistical Tables and Report relating to Coal and Petroleum Production in the Principal Countries of the World, 1883—1903. [295/04.] Price 5½*d.*

Colonial Import Duties Return, 1904. [Cd. 2185/04.] Price 2*s.* 1*d.*

Companies (Winding Up). Thirteenth Annual Report. [311/1904.] Price 6*d.*

Emigration and Immigration.—Statistical Tables and Report, 1904. [137/05.] Price 8*d.*

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Labour Department.—Tenth Abstract of Labour Statistics of the United Kingdom. 1902—04. [Cd. 2491/05.] Price 1*s.* 2*d.*

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Labour Department.—Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on the Strikes and Lock-outs of 1903, with Statistical Tables. [Cd. 2112/04.] Price 7*d.*

Life Assurance Companies' Return, 1904. [I./1905.] Price 3*s.*

Patent Office.—Report for the Year 1903. [178/04.] Price 5½*d.*

Railway Returns for the United Kingdom, 1903. [Cd. 2193/04.] Price 1*s.* 4*d.*

Shipping Casualties—Abstracts of Returns of Shipping Casualties on or near the Coasts of the United Kingdom, 1902-03 (with Charts and Appendices). [Cd. 2212/04.] Price 4*s.* 7*d.*

Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom. 1889-1903. [Cd. 2192/1904.] Price 1*s.* 3d.

Statistical Abstract for the British Empire, 1889-1903. [Cd. 2395.] Price 6*d.*

Statistical Abstract for the Colonies. 1889-1903. [Cd. 1912/04.] Price 1*s.* 10*d.*

Statistical Abstract for Foreign Countries. 1892 to 1901-02. [Cd. 2202/04.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

Statistical Tables relating to British Colonies, Possessions, and Protectorates. Part XXVII. 1902. [Cd. 2184/04.] Price 7*s.*

Tables showing the Progress of Merchant Shipping in the United Kingdom and the principal maritime countries, 1903. [294/1904.] Price 9*d.*

Tramways and Light Railways (Street and Road) Return. [310/05.] Price 6*d.*

II.—MONTHLY RETURNS—

Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for each month during the Year. April, 1905. [25-III/05.] Price 1*s.* 1*d.*

Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions. [103-I/1905.] Price 4½*d.*

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Agricultural Products (Exportation). United Kingdom and Continental Countries. [313.] Price 1*d.*

British and Foreign Trade and Industry. Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts. 1st Series [Cd. 1761/1903.] Price 8*s.* 6*d.* 2nd Series [Cd. 2337/04.] Price 3*s.* 6*d.*

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Certificates of Origin. Memorandum. [Cd. 1446/03.] Price 3*d.*

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Imports and Exports of United Kingdom by Groups of Countries. [214/1903.] Price ½*d.*

Labour Department.—Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on Trade Unions in 1901, with Comparative Statistics, [Cd. 1348/02.] Price 11½*d.*

Memorandum on the comparative Statistics of Population, Industry and Commerce of the United Kingdom and some leading Foreign Countries. [Cd. 1199/1902.] Price 5½*d.*

Preferential Trade Return, showing the advantages granted to other countries in States where British trade does not enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment. [329/1903.] Price 1½*d.*

Report to the Board of Trade by the Advisory Committee on Commercial Intelligence, with reference to their Proceedings. [Cd. 2,044/04.] Price 4½*d.*

Trade and Shipping of Africa, with Maps and Statistical Tables. [C. 9223/99.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

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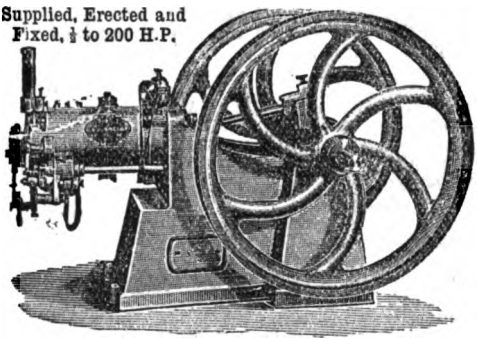

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Board of Trade Journal.

JUNE 1ST, 1905.

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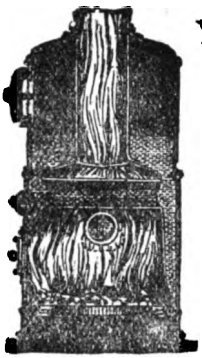

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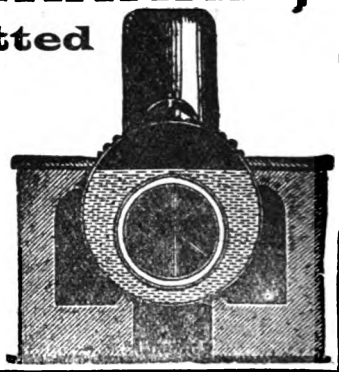

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLIX.] June 1, 1905. [No. 444

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 429.

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 430.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where there are at present on view, among other exhibits, samples of certain foreign linen and union goods selling in competition with British goods on the South American market, also of certain foreign linens, cotton ticking and duck, also competitors of British goods, selling on the South African market, and samples of Chinese-made footwear (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 6th April, pp. 10-11); also samples of copper from the Besshi copper mine in Japan (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 23rd March last, p. 560).

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

Railway Material.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing to supply—

1. Rails and fishplates.
2. Bearing plates for rails.
3. Vacuum brake fittings and rigging.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

The conditions of contract may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.), or may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W. Tenders are to be delivered at the latter office by 2 p.m. on Tuesday, the 6th June, 1905, for Nos. 1 and 2, and on Tuesday, the 13th June, 1905, for No. 3, after which times respectively no tender will be received.

Railway Stores.

The Directors of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway Company are prepared to receive, up to noon on Tuesday, the 6th June, tenders for the supply of the following stores, viz.:—

CLASS A.—1. Bunting, &c.; 2. Chemically-dressed wagon covers; 3. Cross girders, &c.; 4. Posts, &c., for fencing; 5. Red and white lead; 6. Spring steel.

CLASS B.—1. Files; 2. Wood screws.

Tenders must be made on forms, copies of which, with specifications, can be obtained at the offices of the Company, Gloucester House, Bishopsgate Street Without, E.C., on payment as follows:—For Class A., 21*s.* each, and for Class B, 10*s.* 6*d.* each (which will not be returned).

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.,** whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A company manufacturing lubricating and other oils, greases, paints and varnishes and leather lubricants, are prepared to appoint a Canadian resident agent.

A company manufacturing fire brick and fire clay goods wish to secure a share of Canadian trade.

Canadian Enquiries.—A firm in Hamilton who can furnish United Kingdom references are prepared to undertake a few agencies in railway supplies, iron and steel manufactures and general hardware.

A Canadian firm manufacturing casein would like to be placed in correspondence with United Kingdom buyers of the higher grades of this article.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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Openings for British Trade.

SOUTH AFRICA.

Uniform Clothing, &c.

The Crown Agents for the Colonies, acting on behalf of the Administration of the Central South African Railways, invite tenders for the supply of uniform clothing, caps and accessories, to the Central South African Railways, for three years from the 1st July, 1905. Specifications, forms of tender and conditions of contract can be obtained, and patterns seen, at the Crown Agents' Office in Whitehall Gardens, on payment of 1*l.* 1*s.*, which sum will be returned on receipt of a *bonâ fide* tender.

It will be a condition of the contract that the contractor shall have an agent at Johannesburg; and that he shall enter into a bond with two approved sureties for the sum of 1,000*l.* for the due performance of the contract.

Tenders will be received up to noon on the 14th June, 1905, and should be enclosed in a sealed envelope addressed to the Crown Agents, and marked "Tender for Central South African Railway Clothing."

The Crown Agents do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

Harbour Works, &c., in Cape Colony.

The "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" contains the text of a Bill to provide for the raising of a loan of 144,300*l.* for the purpose of harbour works at Port Elizabeth, East London and Mossel Bay. Of this sum 104,100*l.* is proposed to be spent at Port Elizabeth, including 50,100*l.* for tugs and lighters, 9,500*l.* for warehouses and sheds, and 2,800*l.* for patent slip (additional). The intended expenditure at Mossel Bay includes 5,400*l.* for a new iron jetty.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Capital.

See p. 392 for extracts from a despatch from Sir W. MacGregor, Governor of Newfoundland, calling attention to the opening for British capital in developing the resources of the Colony.

EGYPT.

Khaki Drill: Blankets.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" of 20th May, publishes a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 29th June, for the supply of 7,650 metres of khaki drill and 6,000 woollen blankets to the Egyptian Prisons Administration. Tenders, on stamped paper of 30 millièmes, enclosed in sealed envelopes inscribed "Offre pour la furniture de 7,650 mètres de kakee drill," should be presented to the Inspector-General of Prisons, Cairo; they must not be sent through the post. Specifications are on view at the Offices of the Administration.

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Openings for British Trade.

RUSSIA.

Agricultural Machinery.

H.M. Consul at Rostov-on-Don (Mr. A. F. H. Medhurst) reports that the annual exhibition of the Rostov Agricultural Society will be held in that town from the 7th/20th to the 15th/28th September, 1905.

DENMARK.

Coal.

The "Berlingske Tidende" of 26th May contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply to the Roskilde Gas Works of 2,700 tons of gas coal in accordance with conditions which can be inspected at the offices of the Town Engineer, Roskilde ("Stadsingeniörens Kontor, Raadhuset Roskilde"). Tenders must be sent in by mid-day on 8th June.

Coal.

The "Berlingske Tidende" of the 29th May contains a notice calling for tenders for the supply to the Odsherred Railway of about 1,200 tons of coal and to the Höng-Töllöse Railway of about 700 tons of Locomotive coal (Bridgeness Main Splint or Aitken Navigation) in accordance with conditions which can be obtained on application to the Offices of these Railways at Holbaek, Denmark. No date for the receipt of tenders is specified.

FRANCE.

Dry Dock.

The British Vice-Consul at Rouen (Mr. C. Clipperton) says in his report for 1904 that the need of a dry dock is badly felt at that port. At present vessels which require the use of such a dock are compelled to proceed to Havre or even to a port in the United Kingdom. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,368.)

Passenger Service between London and Trouville.

In his report for last year, the Acting British Vice-Consul at Trouville (Mr. J. N. Bourke) states his opinion that there is an opening for a direct line of passenger steamers during the season, viz., 15th July to 15th September, between London or one of the nearest south coast ports and Trouville. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,368.)

SPAIN.

Tramway Plant.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 22nd May contains an announcement to the effect that an application, accompanied by a plan and guarantee, having been presented by Don Antonio Conejero for a concession for a tramway to convey passengers and goods between Baeza and El Santuario de la Yedra, one month (from the date of the publi-

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Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

cation of the said announcement in the "Gaceta") is allowed for the presentation of applications, accompanied by their corresponding plans and guarantees, upon terms more favourable to the Government.

Submarine Telegraph Materials.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 25th May contains a Royal Decree sanctioning the expenditure of 290,000 pesetas (about 8,772*l.*) on carrying out repairs to submarine cables.

ITALY.

Water Power Plant.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) of 25th May states that the Prefect of Bergamo has granted Messrs. Ambrogio Binda and Company, of Milan, an appropriation of water from the River Bembo, in the commune of Osio Sopra, for the production of power for industrial purposes.

The "Bollettino" also states that the Prefect of Genoa has granted Signor Boris Luigi a similar appropriation from the Evro waterfall, in the commune of Pontivrea.

GREECE.

Labrador Codfish.

H.M. Consul at Patras (Mr. F. B. Wood) calls attention in his recent report to the increase which is taking place annually in the importation of Labrador codfish. He says that the Greeks are a fish-eating nation, but the supply of fresh fish for various reasons is getting less and less, and this deficit is supplemented by all kinds of salted and pickled fish.

In 1903, 36,848 quintals of Labrador codfish were imported at Patras and sold at an average of 1*l.* 1*s.* to 1*l.* 2*s.* per quintal c.i.f.; during the past season 41,713 quintals were landed and sold at the opening at 1*l.* 4*s.* 9*d.* c.i.f., and were finally run off at 1*l.* 3*s.* 6*d.* —the highest price ever paid during an entire season for codfish.

Salmon.

Pickled salmon, in tierces of 300 lbs. net, is imported from Labrador direct and also *viâ* Liverpool. The poorer classes would consume it largely if it were sold somewhat cheaper. Some 400 tierces were imported last year and sold at an average price of 5*l.* per tierce c.i.f.

Herrings and Bloaters.

Herrings and bloaters are imported in considerable quantities but are not such favourite articles as the two above-named. They are consumed almost entirely during the months of September, October and December, so shippers should be careful that their goods arrive within this period, for at other seasons this fish is almost unsaleable. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,369.)

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Openings for British Trade.

SERVIA.

Sheets: Blankets: Horse Cloths, &c.

In a recent official report, the Austro-Hungarian Consul at Belgrade calls attention to the fact that tenders are frequently invited by the Servian Government for the supply of goods to the army; foreign firms are allowed to tender, and have good opportunities of securing contracts as the local production is not sufficient to supply the demand. A big cloth factory at Paracsin, which used to furnish the major portion of blankets, horse cloths, &c., was utterly destroyed by fire last autumn, and no steps have yet been taken to re-build it, while a factory at Belgrade, which formerly supplied sheets and linen, is at present unable to execute orders of this nature.

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Agricultural Machinery.

The British Vice-Consul at Adana (Capt. A. F. Townshend) says in his recent report that the importation of British threshing machines seems likely to increase in the future. Altogether some 15 reaping and threshing machines were imported from the United Kingdom during the year 1904; but while the British threshing machines are generally preferred, there seems to be a tendency to buy American reaping machines, chiefly owing to their lightness. The sale of such articles is still only in its infancy, but appears likely to become an important business, in spite of the hostility on the part of thousands of labourers who are in the habit of coming from the interior to work on the Cilician plain during the harvest. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,363.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Fancy Shell Goods.

A communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from the British Commercial Agent in the United States (Mr. E. Seymour Bell), reporting that an enquiry has been received at the British Consulate General, New York, for the names and addresses of British manufacturers of fancy shell goods, for which, he states, there is some demand. Communications should be addressed to Mr. E. Seymour Bell, British Commercial Agent, British Consulate General, New York.

MEXICO.

Hydro-Electric Plant.

The Mexican "Diario Oficial" of 8th May notifies the following applications for the appropriation of water for the production of motive power:—(1) From Señor Victor Villar for an appropriation of 1,500 litres per second from the river Cuautla, State of Morelos; (2) from Señor Ramon F. Riverol for an appropriation of 45 cubic metres per second from the river Amacuzac, Municipality of Huautla, District of Tetecala, State of Morelos.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRAZIL.

Asbestos Tiles.

The "Diario Official" of Brazil of 7th May contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply to the Central Railway of Brazil of 6,000 square metres of asbestos tiles, in accordance with conditions on view at the offices of the railway in Rio de Janeiro, where tenders have to be presented at noon on 21st June. A deposit of 500 milreis (about 56*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

ARGENTINA.

Automobiles in Buenos Ayres.

A communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from H.M. Consul at Buenos Ayres (Mr. A. C. Ross) to the effect that the use of motor vehicles for the carriage of goods is becoming more common in that city in spite of the cheapness of horses. The city is unusually spread out, and the great distance from the suburbs to the centre is very much in favour of the motor. There are practically no ascents in the city. Automobiles are becoming fashionable among the wealthy people.

CHINA.

Rubber Boots and Shoes.

The Acting British Consul at Kiungchow (Hoihow), in his report on the trade of that port for the year 1904, states that there is a growing demand for rubber boots and shoes. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,372.)

EXHIBITION.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Exhibition Illustrative of British Cotton Cultivation and the Commercial Uses of Cotton.

On the invitation of the Board of Trade a private view is to be held to-day (June 1st) at the Imperial Institute of the Exhibition illustrating British cotton cultivation and the commercial uses of cotton (see p. 245 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 11th May) at which His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales has signified his intention of being present.

The Exhibition, which is being held by the Board of Trade in conjunction with the British Cotton Growing Association, has been arranged under the direction of Professor Wyndham Dunstan, F.R.S., the Director of the Imperial Institute, in consultation with the Managing Committee of the Institute, Sir Cecil Clementi-Smith, G.C.M.G., and Sir Alfred Bateman, K.C.M.G. The Colonial Governments concerned, as well as the principal manufacturers in

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Openings for British Trade.

this country, have assisted the Exhibition by sending exhibits both of material and machinery. The Board of Education have also lent a number of models of machinery.

The Exhibition has been arranged by the Scientific Staff of the Imperial Institute to illustrate not only the progress of cotton cultivation on British soil, but also the various stages in the passage of raw cotton to the manufactured fabric.

The Exhibition will be now open to the public, without charge, until the end of July.

IMPERIAL INSTITUTE BULLETIN.

The Imperial Institute Bulletin, which has been published quarterly since May, 1903, as a supplement to the "Board of Trade Journal," will in future be issued quarterly as a separate publication in June, September, December, and March.

The Bulletin chiefly consists of reports of original investigations conducted in the Scientific and Technical Department of the Imperial Institute for India and the British Colonies, and of general articles written by specialists on the development and utilisation of economic products; and it is also a record of progress in tropical agriculture. The members of the Scientific and Technical Staff of the Imperial Institute, as well as the Officers engaged in the various mineral surveys which are now being conducted in the several Colonies, contribute to the Bulletin, and officers of agricultural, forestry, and other scientific Departments in the Colonies have promised their help.

The Bulletin can be obtained at the Imperial Institute, South Kensington, price one shilling, exclusive of postage.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE COMMITTEE.

The Commercial Intelligence Committee constituted by the Board of Trade in May, 1900, held its final meeting on 24th May. There were present, Sir Alfred Bateman, K.C.M.G., in the chair, Mr. Llewellyn Smith, C.B., Deputy Chairman; The Lord Strathcona and Mount Royal, G.C.M.G.; The Lord Avebury; Mr. F. Brittain; Mr. T. Craig-Brown; Mr. C. A. Harris, C.B., C.M.G.; Sir Alfred Hickman, Bart. M.P.; Mr. T. W. Holderness, C.S.I.; Sir William Holland, M.P.; Mr. Algernon Law (of the Foreign Office); and Sir Albert Rollit, M.P.; with Mr. G. J. Stanley, the Secretary of the Committee. Mr. Worthington, Principal of the Commercial Intelligence Branch, was also present. The Committee discussed and approved the terms of their final report to the President of the Board of Trade. In the absence of the Marquess of Salisbury, Sir Francis Hopwood, the Permanent Secretary of the Board of Trade, expressed the thanks of the Board to the members of the Committee for the valuable assistance they had rendered during their period of office.

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LISTS OF POSSIBLE BUYERS OF BRITISH GOODS ABROAD.

With reference to the announcement on p. 202 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 4th May, and to previous similar announcements, relative to classified lists of traders abroad, received from H.M. Consuls and the Correspondents in British Possessions of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, it is to be noted that certain more specialised lists, useful to those engaged in particular branches or sub-divisions of the several trades as commonly grouped, are also received from time to time in response to special enquiries.

These lists also may be consulted free of charge by British manufacturers and traders at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Amongst such lists which have recently been received are the following (only the general headings being given):—

Agricultural Implements and Machinery Importers and Buyers.

Lists of manufacturers and importers of agricultural implements and machinery, as well as of other firms in the iron and steel trades, and likely users of various classes of machinery, in Adelaide, South Australia.

Lists of agricultural implement dealers, makers and importers, of saw mill owners, flour mill proprietors, and in some cases also of estate owners and other persons likely to buy agricultural implements and various kinds of machinery in the following towns:—Bordeaux, Bilbao, Oporto, Trieste, Florence, Milan, Palermo, Salonica, The Piræus, Stockholm, and Warsaw.

Buyers of Watches.

Lists of jewellers and other possible buyers of British watches in various towns in the United States and in British South Africa, as well as in Malta.

Buyers of Materials used in the Manufacture of Aërated Waters.

Lists of aërated water manufacturers, &c., in Mexico, and various towns in South America, France, &c.

Buyers of Stationery.

Lists of buyers or importers of British stationery in St. Petersburg, Trieste, Oporto, Odessa, Cape Town, and Pernambuco.

Egg Exporters.

List of egg exporters in various Italian towns, and in Galicia and other parts of Austria-Hungary.

No responsibility is accepted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch or its correspondents or His Majesty's representatives abroad in respect of the financial standing of any firms or individuals that may be named in these lists, nor are the lists necessarily exhaustive.

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BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Newfoundland.—The following paragraphs are extracted from the despatch of the Governor of Newfoundland (Sir W. MacGregor) to the Secretary of State for the Colonies forwarding a report on the foreign trade and commerce of that Colony:—

"It is greatly to be regretted that both as regards fish and minerals, British capital is not further employed in this Colony, where, as far as one can judge, it could be profitably invested. This question is one of the most interesting and important of those that are raised by this report. It would surely be well worth considering how the attention of British capitalists could be drawn to the undeveloped resources of this Colony. I am informed by my Ministers that some efforts have been made in previous years in this direction, but that the results have not been encouraging. The tables attached to this report indicate clearly in graphic form how the trade of the Colony is being lost to the United Kingdom. . . The best remedy for this, probably the only one, would be that British capitalists should take a much greater share in the development of this Colony than is the case at present.

"There can be no doubt that the exports of the Colony could be largely increased by the use of cold storage; by improved methods of curing fish; by seeking for new, and extending present, markets, and carefully studying their requirements; and by applying to the fisheries generally, and to the working of minerals, the powerful aids of modern science."

Rio de Janeiro.—In a recent despatch to the Foreign Office, the Acting British Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. C. B. Rhind) called attention to a letter which appeared in the "Jornal do Commercio" from Mr. T. G. Cross, of the firm of Messrs. Gustavus Gudgeon & Co. of Rio de Janeiro, relative to fraudulent bankruptcy in Brazil. In commenting upon this letter the "Brazilian Review" of 28th March, says:—

"The abuse Mr. Cross alludes to is the scandalous facility with which composition of 5 or 10 per cent. is obtained by fraudulent debtors, some of whom have been proved to have purchased the goods the day before their failure. . . .

"That the *morale* of the market has steadily deteriorated of late years, and commercial credit with it, is indisputable. Indeed it is sufficient to look at the returns for discounts in the native and foreign banks to comprehend how deep the distrust really is. . . . .

"Nothing, apparently, is to be expected from the courts, and the only action seems to lie, as Mr. Cross points out, in common action on the part of the commercial body."

Stettin.—In issuing a warning respecting insufficient **certificates of origin**, H.M. Consul at Stettin (Mr. R. Bernal) says it frequently happens that foreign products are purchased from, or through,

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British Trade Abroad.

British firms, and are re-shipped to Stettin from a British port. Such goods are now liable to pay the highest rate of duty if not sent on a "through" bill of lading, or should they not be accompanied by a certificate of origin, in which the country in which the goods were actually produced is distinctly stated.

For goods to enjoy the tariff reductions granted to the products of certain countries by treaty, re-exporters to Germany (of goods liable to be charged the higher rate) should be careful to see it stated on the certificate that the articles are the "produce of" and not merely "imported from" their country of origin.

Importing firms, finding that goods from British ports are thus handicapped, would probably endeavour to purchase direct from the producer. This would cause a considerable loss to British merchants and shipping.

Although certificates of origin are not necessarily required on the importation of goods from the United Kingdom, they are demanded in the case of wines, spirits and tropical or colonial produce, such as are not grown or prepared in the United Kingdom.

On the Consul's representation the following instructions have been issued, viz., "Whenever bill of entry certificates of origin are required, they (*i.e.*, collectors and other Customs officers) are at liberty, if so requested by exporters, and upon being reasonably satisfied by the production of invoices and other evidence as to the actual origin of goods—whether British or foreign—to issue certificates definitely stating that such goods are the 'produce of' and not merely 'imported from' their country of origin."

With reference to the large number of **enquiries respecting trade,** asking for the names of dealers in a variety of goods, or agents for the sale of British products, Mr. Bernal points out that the prospective exporters would in many instances save time by applying direct to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., from which office lists of local firms dealing in British products can be obtained.

With regard to letters of enquiry respecting agents, openings for trade, &c., all queries should be concisely worded, and preferably in the form of definite questions. Whenever possible the required information will be sent by return of post.

The Consul further points out that he can seldom obtain details respecting firms in, or exports from, other parts of Germany, or from Russia.

As regards **increasing British exports** to Stettin, Mr. Bernal considers that the possibility is somewhat remote, owing chiefly to the high rates of import duty imposed, but were travellers generally empowered to make slight concessions to meet the wishes of customers, and willing to agree to modifications to suit the prevailing customs or taste, it is probable that the range of articles

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British Trade Abroad.

now on sale could be increased. In order to accomplish this the traveller must be given a free hand, have an expert knowledge of the trade he represents, and above all speak German fluently.

On this subject Mr. Bernal says:—

"A traveller from a German firm dealing in leather and fancy goods lately informed me that goods sold by him in Italy and the Netherlands were delivered c.i.f. and duty paid at his customers' doors, the goods being sent through a forwarding agent, who, for a small percentage on the value, undertakes to pay all charges. This is a great inducement to shopkeepers, who are saved trouble and waste of time at the Custom-houses. British exporters of articles in daily use might find it to their advantage to try the above methods should they not have already done so." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,358.)

Constantinople.—H.M. Consul at Constantinople (Mr. A. T. Waugh), in his report for 1904, writes that Italian manufacturers have lately been paying attention to "cabot" cloth, an imitation of Syrian hand-woven stuff, which was for many years a Manchester speciality.

Italian cabots are now found at Constantinople, in Smyrna, the Balkan States and especially in Roumania.

Regarding the increase of British sales in Turkey, Mr. Waugh says:—

"I cannot help thinking that our sales in Turkey might be increased by an intelligent study of the market. If several manufacturers combined to share the expense and sent out a qualified man to spend a few months in Constantinople and to visit the principal centres, I believe they would find it worth while.

"I recommend this suggestion to the consideration of people at home, and shall be glad to reply to any enquiries on this subject, or on any other. It does not seem to me of any use to attempt a superficial description of the articles which find a sale here.

"I have already referred to the benefit derived by German manufacturers from the well organised system of through freights from inland towns in Germany to ports in the Levant by the German Levant Line.

"British trade in many minor articles such as crockery, glass, &c., is naturally handicapped against Austro-Hungarian or Italian competitors by the greater distance and higher freights; but there is no reason why German manufacturers should have any advantage over British in this respect. The German Levant Line has issued this year a revised tariff, in which some of its rates are reduced—with a view to competing with the Austrian Lloyd rates from Trieste—and the number of towns is increasing from which a through bill of lading is issued.

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British Trade Abroad.

"All freights in this tariff are charged on the ton weight.

"I give examples of the rates charged on textiles for purposes of comparison:—

From	Rates per 100 Kilos.					
	Less than 5 Tons.		5 Tons or over.		10 Tons or over.	
	M.	pf.	M.	pf.	M.	pf.
Neumünster, 80 kiloms. distant from Hamburg	3	67	3	56	3	53
Düsseldorf, 388 kiloms. distant	4	9	3	60	3	49
Chemnitz, 450 kiloms. distant	4	33	3	84	3	72

"This works out at about 1*l.* 16*s.* from Neumünster, 2*l.* 1*s.* from Düsseldorf, or 2*l.* 3*s.* from Chemnitz per ton weight to Constantinople, Alexandria, Braila, Bourgas, Galatz, Malta, Odessa, Piræus, Salonica, Smyrna or Varna.

"This includes railway transport to Hamburg, discharging from railway trucks in Hamburg, bill of lading, storage till departure of steamer, loading on board steamer and freight from Hamburg to port of destination.

"The freight from Liverpool to Constantinople for textiles is 1*l.* 2*s.* per 40 cubic feet, from Manchester 1*l.* 1s. About 1½ tons measurement is equivalent to 1 ton dead weight in these goods, so that the freight from Liverpool works out at about 1*l.* 13*s.* per ton weight.

"In crate goods, however, a ton weight may measure as much as 120 cubic feet, which is 3 tons measurement.

"The tariff, which can be bought at the Deutsche Levante Linie office at Hamburg for 7½*d.*, is worth studying." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,357.)

It may be noted that a copy of the tariff may be consulted at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Rosario.—In his recent report, H.M. Consul at Rosario (Mr. H. M. Mallet), writes:—

"Several commercial travellers representing British firms have recently visited this district, and there is no doubt that this method is the one most likely to promote business. The requirements and trade customs of these parts can only become known to the merchants engaged in various branches of trade by their sending representatives to study the market and its requirements.

"I may again mention that a list of the principal importers, dealers, banks, &c., established here is furnished annually to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade."—(*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,362.)

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British Trade Abroad.

Adana.—In comparing British and foreign methods of doing business, the British Vice-Consul at Adana (Captain A. F. Townshend), remarks in his report for 1904:—

"Continental firms are in the habit of giving more credit than British firms, and it is very doubtful whether their system is a wise one, it being certain that a lot of money has been lost in that way. People often complain to me that British firms will not give credit and I can hardly advise them to do so, even though by so doing they would probably increase their business. I do not consider that British firms take sufficient care in the appointment of agents here (Adana), nor do I consider it of much avail to send out a travelling representative unacquainted with the ways and languages of the country.

"The best system would appear to consist in the appointment of a carefully selected agent, and the employment of suitable commercial travellers. Men able to do business in Greek, French, Turkish, and Arabic, travel on behalf of German and Italian firms, and it would be desirable that British firms should send out similar representatives." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,363.)

Hawaii.—The report for 1903–04 on the trade of Hawaii by H.M. Consul at Honolulu (Mr. R. de B. Layard) states that the high protective tariff in operation against goods of foreign countries will never, if maintained, permit of a large increase in consumption, per capita, of British manufactures, but they might be increased to a certain extent if price lists were issued by British exporters giving prices in United States coinage, as well as, or instead of English currency, quoting for delivery in Honolulu where possible.

Where a market is desired it is worse than useless to throw all the burden of calculation of exchange, &c., on the prospective salesman or purchaser, who will inevitably be more attracted by price lists which save him that trouble. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,365.)

Batoum.—H.M. Consul at Batoum (Mr. P. Stevens), in his report for 1904, writes as follows with regard to the encouragement of British trade:—

"The question of the desirability of furnishing information on the opportunities which may arise for extending British trade throughout this country is ever kept well before this Consulate, which is fully alive to the necessity of communicating, without delay, all particulars of commercial interest to the competent authorities at home, and no occasion of bringing merchants and tradespeople at this end in touch with British manufacturers is lost. Yet such endeavours seldom lead to productive results, in view of the existing heavy import duties on all articles of foreign make;

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British Trade Abroad.

nevertheless a certain class of goods, principally belonging to the machinery category, the like of which cannot be procured from any other country, and the demand for which is exceedingly limited, do find their way into the Caucasus, but in such cases they are generally ordered and imported by companies or large firms for a set purpose, and are not to be found anywhere in stock as articles of general trade. Agricultural implements, although made by British firms, are in most instances furnished to the Caucasus by agents in other parts of Russia, and very few machines find their way direct from the United Kingdom. Moreover, the population is still far removed from that state of prosperity and culture which would enable it to change to any extent from the primitive article to the use of the high class article manufactured in the United Kingdom, the comparatively high price of which would be still further enhanced by prohibitive import duties. The invariable reply received from local dealers is that the duty is too heavy and nothing can be done.

"Woollen and cotton yarns, other textile goods and a few minor articles of wearing apparel and adornment forming the principal articles of barter in the stores and shops of the towns of the Caucasus, are either manufactured by the mills at Lodz, in Poland, or are of cheap German make, hawked about the market by commercial travellers, disposed of at excessively long credits, and introduced into the country at a price low enough to enable them, when the duty has been paid, to compete with the Russian made article."

Central Asia.—Mr. Stevens goes on to say :—"The same remarks apply as well to the markets of Central Asia, and any attempts to establish and develop trade in British manufactured goods with that country would probably meet with but little success, if any. A fairly good demand for agricultural implements existed in parts of Trans-Caspia and Central Asia during the past year, and the requirements of those markets were, to a certain extent, met by agents of British firms in Moscow and at Baku." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,366.)

Rouen.—The British Vice-Consul at Rouen (Mr. C. Clipperton) states, in his recent report, that complaints are not infrequent that travellers representing British firms do not have a sufficiently correct knowledge of the French language, resulting in the delivery of the goods not being in accordance with the orders as given. Naturally this causes dissatisfaction, and employers would do well to assure themselves that their travellers actually speak and write French fluently and correctly. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,368.)

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TRADE OF NATAL.

With reference to the notice on p. 157 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 27th April last, the following tables, relating to the value of the trade of Natal during the three months ended 31st March, 1905, as compared with the corresponding period of 1904, are based on statistics published in a supplement to the "Natal Government Gazette" for 25th April:—

Imports.

The following table shows the value of the total imports of the principal categories of merchandise into Natal (by sea) during the periods mentioned, distinguishing Government stores and bullion and specie:—

Articles.	Three Months ended 31st March.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Metals and manufactures of (*includes agricultural implements, hardware, ironmongery, machinery, sewing machines, &c.*)	459,000	340,000
Provisions, exclusive of corn and dairy products (*includes coffee, lard, meats, frozen and preserved, jams, fish, hams and bacon, sugar, tea, vegetables, farinaceous foods, fruits, condiments, salt, &c.*) ...	434,000	302,000
Apparel, haberdashery, &c. (*includes millinery, hats, hosiery, slops, &c.*)	285,000	292,000
Corn and grain (*includes rice*)	303,000	218,000
Dairy products (*includes butter, margarine and ghee, eggs, cheese, and condensed milk*)	133,000	126,000
Wood and manufactures (*includes cabinetware*) ...	233,000	104,000
Leather and manufactures (*includes saddlery*) ...	90,000	102,000
Beverages (*includes ale, spirits, wine and aërated waters*)	86,000	78,000
Stationery (*includes books and paper of all kinds*) ...	55,000	54,000
Oilman's stores (*includes oils and paints*)	67,000	52,000
Drugs and chemicals	38,000	38,000
Bicycles, tricycles, motor cars, &c.	26,000	33,000
Soap and candles	37,000	32,000
Woollen manufactures	30,000	31,000
Tobacco, raw and manufactured...	30,000	27,000
Cotton manufactures	22,000	25,000
Instruments, musical, mathematical and scientific ...	19,000	20,000
Glass and glassware	22,000	17 000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	19,000	16,000
Cocoa, chocolate and confectionery	12,000	13,000
Floorcloth	11.000	13,000
Arms and ammunition (*includes blasting compounds*)...	10,000	12,000
Carriages and carts	18,000	11,000
Earthen, china, stone ware and marble	17,000	11,000
Live animals	12,000	11,000
Railway and tramway material	12,000	11,000
Toys and fancy ware	9,000	11,000
Electrical fittings	8,000	9,000
Forage	16,000	7.000
Cement	15,000	7,000
Bags, empty (*except paper and leather bags*)... ...	6,000	5,000
Brushware	4,000	5,000
Cordage and rope	5,000	2.000
Linen manufactures	2,000	2.000
Manures	2,000	2,000
Other articles of merchandise (*including goods by foreign parcels post*)	173,000	265,000
Total merchandise ... £	2,720,000	2,304,000
Stores for Natal Government	172,000	171,000
" " Transvaal Government	92,000	—
Bullion and specie...	9,000	8,000
Imported as merchandise, but delivered free of duty for military purposes	5,000	9,000
Grand total ... ... £	2,998,000	2,492,000

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Trade of Natal (continued).

Exports.

The following table shows the values of the exports of Colonial produce by sea from Natal during the same periods:—

Articles.	Three Months ended 31st March.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Wool (sheep's)	110,000	180,000
Coal (bunker and cargo)	79,000	117,000
Sugar...	22,000	33,000
Horses	*	28,000
Corn and grain	*	27,000
Bark	21,000	17,000
Hides and skins	5,000	8,000
Hair (Angora)	5,000	7,000
Tea	3,000	4,000
Matches	2,000	5,000
Fruit, fresh	2,000	2,000
Tobacco	1,000	1,000
Other articles of Colonial produce	5,000	15,000
Total ... ... £	255,000	442,000

* Under 500*l.*

BRAZILIAN EXCHANGE: EFFECTS ON TRADE.

H.M. Minister in Brazil (Sir Henry Nevill Dering, Bart., K.C.M.G., C.B.), in a despatch to the Foreign Office, dated Petropolis, 24th April, relative to the rise in exchange (which was then quoted between 16*d.* and 17*d.* per milreis) writes:—

"The comparatively sudden rise in the exchange between Brazil "and foreign countries which has taken place within the last ten "weeks has created consternation among large classes of the popu-"lation, and has led to much distress. Industry, commerce and "general trade are unanimously bewailing the 12*d.* rate which has "lasted so long as to create a belief in its permanency.

"The mining industry, especially the prolific manganese mines, "have now completely ceased working, all profit in connection with "this industry ceasing as soon as the exchange reached 14*d.* "Instead of several shiploads weekly there has not been a ship-"ment for weeks and the mines are shut down.

"The coffee planters and other producers of exportable articles "are in despair, as the price of coffee has fallen about 2*s.* 6*d.* an "arroba in the last eight months."

The Acting British Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. C. B. Rhind) wrote recently:—

"The rise is, in fact, in no way attributable to increased economic

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Brazilian Exchange: Effects on Trade.

"prosperity, but simply to the accretion of bills saleable against "the various loans recently floated abroad, and which are at the "disposal at the Banco da Republica, now, therefore, in complete "control of the situation.

"The situation may be maintained so long as borrowed money is "available, but when that is exhausted and it becomes necessary "to provide for the service of these loans . . . their amortiza-"tion and the amortization (now suspended) of previous loans, as "well as for the inflated importation which will be encouraged by "the higher exchange to the detriment of home (Brazilian) "industries, there is every prospect that exchange will take a "rapidly downward tendency."

Mr. Rhind encloses copy of an article on the subject by Senor Serzedello Correa (a former Brazilian Minister of Finance), published in the "Jornal do Commercio" of 8th April, which may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

SILK PRODUCTION OF THE WORLD.

The following table showing the production of raw silk in the World in 1904, with comparative figures for the preceding year, has been issued by the Lyons Syndicate of silk merchants:—

—	1903.	1904.
Western Europe—	Kilogs.	Kilogs.
France	474,000	625,000
Italy	3,526,000	4,000,000
Spain	86,000	77,000
Austria-Hungary	275,000	315,000
Total	4,361,000	5,917,000
Levant and Central Asia—		
Turkey in Asia: Anatolia and Brussa	526,000	500,000
Turkey in Asia: Syria and Cyprus...	510,000	470,000
Turkey in Europe: Salonika and Adrianople ...	248,000	230,000
Balkan States: Bulgaria, Servia and Roumania ...	136,000	140,000
Greece and Crete	60,000	60,000
Caucasus	400,000	360,000
Persia and Turkestan (export)	650,000	426,000
Total	2,530,000	2,186,000
Far East—		
China { Export from Shanghai	4,244,000	4,350,000
China { " Canton	2,147,000	2,100,000
Japan: Export from Yokohama	4,608,000	5,535,000
India: " Calcutta	245,000	180,000
Total	11,244,000	12,165,000*
Grand total	18,135,000	20,268,000

* These figures are only approximate.

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IMPORT TRADE AND CUSTOMS REVENUE OF COREA.

Referring to the notice on p. 210 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd February last, a despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Minister Resident and Consul-General at Seoul (Sir J. N. Jordan, K.C.M.G.), enclosing the following statement showing the foreign trade of Corea during the past five years :—

Year.	Exports.			Imports.
	Goods.	Gold.	Total.	
	£	£	£	£
1900	944,000	363,000	1,307,000	1,094,000
1901	864,000	510,000	1,374 000	1,500,000
1902	849,000	517,000	1,366,000	1,382,000
1903	968,000	557,000	1,525,000	1,860,000
1904	708,000	511,000	1,219,000	2,736,000

The excess of imports over exports is attributable to railway construction and other productive works by Japan, and the consequent enhanced purchasing power of the people; and also to a falling-off in the export of rice. Cotton goods shared fully in the year's improvement. The total value of the import of these goods was 813,643*l.*, against 590,199*l.* in 1903, the British share being 384,569*l.* compared with a Japanese 422,086*l.*

Sir J. Jordan has also forwarded the following statement showing the net amount of duty collected at the eight open ports of Corea during the past five years, based on figures supplied by the Chief Commissioner of Customs at Seoul :—

Ports.	1900.		1901.		1902.		1903.		1904.	
	Yen.	£	Yen.	£	Yen.	£	Yen.	£	Yen.	£
Chinnampo ...	23,499	2,350	39,107	3,993	58,326	5,956	92,661	9,459	199,864	20,404
Chemulpo ...	545,312	54,531	647,382	66,087	530,963	54,203	704,231	71,890	1,013,415	103,454
Kunsan ...	4,778	478	17,569	1,793	21,365	2,182	65,592	6,697	52,455	5,356
Mokpo ...	46,623	4,662	53,035	5,413	49,897	5,095	71,785	7,328	46,765	4,775
Masampo ..	1,168	117	4,344	444	6,222	636	6,400	653	4,921	503
Fusan... ...	316,213	31,621	343,592	35,076	318,553	32,521	300,442	30,670	370,278	37,792
Wonsan ...	135,671	13,567	191,465	19,545	181,482	18,527	178,648	18,237	103,724	10,590
Songchin ..	65	7	2,962	302	1,781	181	12,943	1,321	690	70
Total ...	1,073,332	107,333	1,299,458	132,658	1,168,591	119,301	1,432,703	146,255	1,792,113	182,944

It will be seen, remarks Sir J. Jordan, that the revenue has increased by 71 per cent. during this quinquennial period, and that last year's collection, which amounted to 182,944*l.*, was 36,689*l.* in excess of that of 1903, which, in its turn was considerably larger than that of any previous year.

Chemulpo and Chinnampo account for more than the total increase in the revenue of 1904, the collection at the former port being 103,454*l.* against 71,890*l.* in 1903, and at the latter, 20,404*l.* against 9,459*l.*

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FISHING INDUSTRY OF MOROCCO.

The following memorandum on the fishing industry off the north-west coast of Morocco has been received at the Foreign Office, from H.M. Consul at Tangier (Mr. H. E. White):—

Fishing off the north-west coast of Morocco is carried on chiefly by Spanish and Portuguese boats, which may be classed as follows:—

Sailing boats of from 15 to 25 tons, of which about 100 come from the south of Portugal during the summer months to fish off some 200 miles of coast-line extending south from Cape Spartel, their fishing grounds being at a distance of from 5 to 10 miles from the shore. They fish with lines and hooks for mackerel and bonitos, averaging respectively about 1½ lbs. and 3¼ lbs. The fish are salted on board as caught, and each vessel returns to port when it has a full cargo. In ordinary years the vessels only make one voyage to these shores, but in good years, when fish are plentiful, they make two voyages in the season. Last season fewer boats were engaged in the fishing than usual.

Spanish boats of from 12 to 20 tons, from Valencia and other Mediterranean ports of Spain, which visit the same waters as the Portuguese vessels above-mentioned. There are about 100 of these boats at present, but their numbers increase each year. They fish with nets as well as with hooks and line.

"La Gaditana" Fishing Company of Cadiz has four steam trawlers of 20 tons which fish off Laraiche at about 10 miles from the shore for all kinds of fish, especially hake, taking their catch in to the Cadiz market fresh.

The villages of Tarifa and Barbate on the Spanish coast of the Straits have about 70 boats of from 1 to 5 tons each which fish in the Straits for tunny, catching on an average about 10,000 fish during the season. The tunny in these waters are small. These boats also fish close to the Moorish shore for all kinds of smaller fish, except mackerel and sardines, the average catch during the year being estimated at from 25,000 to 30,000 cwts. The fish are sold fresh and not salted.

There are about 50 small Tangier fishing boats, with crews of 3 to 5 men, which fish in this neighbourhood within about two miles of the shore for all kinds of fish—mackerel, small bonito, sardines, pollock, meagre, several varieties of bream, grey and red mullet, soles, sargo, bass, snapper, cod, hake, dories, congers, &c., which are sold fresh in the local market. The total average catch is estimated at about 12,000 cwts. of fish a year.

At Ceuta the Spanish Government has two stake nets for small tunny which are let by auction for periods of 12 years, the season being from May to August, a considerable quantity of fish being taken. There are also a number of fishing boats, the majority of the population living by fishing. A considerable quantity of anchovies are salted at Ceuta for exportation.

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FOREIGN TRADE OF PERSIA IN 1903-04.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, copy of a memorandum by the Secretary to H.M. Legation at Tehran (Mr. E. M. Grant Duff) analysing the commercial statistics of Persia for the year ended 20th March, 1904. Mr. Duff writes:—

"The commercial statistics for the period 20th March, 1903, to 20th March, 1904, are of special interest owing to the fact that the year is the first during which the new tariff has been in force in Persia. Assuming that the figures in the 'Tableau général du commerce avec les pays étrangers' are accurate, it would appear that the introduction of the new tariff has been beneficial to Persian trade. The total commerce from 21st March, 1902, to 20th March, 1903, amounts to 459,718,658 krans, or 8,359,430*l.*, while from 21st March, 1903, to 20th March, 1904, the total amounts to 639,810,662 krans, or 11,632,921*l.*, showing an increase of 3,273,491*l.*

"The new tariff would also appear to have affected British trade favourably. The total British commerce for 1902-03 (imports 102,461,452 krans, and exports 18,396,675 krans, or 1,862,914*l.* and 334,466*l.* respectively) amounted to 120,858,127 krans, or 2,197,380*l.* To this must be added the figures of the Karun trade, which are not included in the official statistics. The Karun trade in 1902-03 amounted to about 100,000*l.*, so that the total value of British commerce during that period was about 2,300,000*l.*

"The value of British trade with Persia during 1903-04 (imports 128,401,253 krans, or 2,334,529*l.*, and exports 21,113,178 krans, or 383,852*l.*) was 2,718,381*l.* This shows an increase of about 400,000*l.* in the trade between the two countries. . . .

"During the period 21st March, 1903, to 20th March, 1904, Russian trade amounted to, imports 184,732,273 krans (3,358,770*l.*), and exports 115,512,359 krans (2,827,497*l.*), or a total trade of 6,186,267*l.* This is more than double the British trade for the same period, and more than half of the whole trade between Persia and foreign countries."

PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

SWEDEN.

Rejection of Government Bill Providing for Immediate Application of Proposed Increases of Duties.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 304 of the "Journal" for the 18th May, reporting a proposal of the Swedish Government to introduce a system whereby new or increased import duties proposed by the Government should take effect immediately upon their being announced, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of a despatch from H.M. Minister at Stockholm, stating that this proposal has been rejected by the Riksdag in accordance with the recommendation of the Committee to which it was referred.

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

"Sale" Forms Privately Printed to be in Agreement with Official Forms.

The Board of Customs have recently issued a General Order (No. 37 of 1905) directing that on and after the 1st August next, the provisions of General Order No. 32 of 1896 respecting privately printed sale forms are to be strictly enforced.

The provisions of the Order of 1896 require that privately printed forms of entry for warehousing, and other forms on the sale list which are in use at London and other ports, are not to be accepted by the Customs unless they correspond in shape, size and print with those issued officially.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Customs Decisions.

A copy of the "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" for 15th April last has been received, containing a Supplement to the Customs Tariff Guide (No. 43), giving Customs decisions respecting the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into the Commonwealth.

The following are the principal decisions given:—

Articles and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
Blocks, pipe clay—	
As other articles	Free.
Catalogues or price lists imported as insets to free publications—	
As paper, advertising matter	3*d.* per lb.
Ceiling decorations, being centre flowers, &c., manufactured from wood pulp—	
As fancy goods	20 % *ad val.*
Crystals, peppermint, used in the manufacture of confectionery—	
As confectionery, n.e.i.	2*d.* per lb.
Diaries, "Ironmonger" and "Chemist and Druggist"—	
As manufactured stationery	25 % *ad val.*
Figures, cut out, advertising, of cardboard—	
As paper, advertising matter	3*d.* per lb.
Lathing, expanded metal, for use in building—	
As manufactures of metal, n.e.i.	20 % *ad val.*
Lights, Bengal, coloured (sometimes called "Bengal Safety matches")—	
As fireworks	20 % "
Machines—Cotton gin—	
As machinery (free)	Free.
Material consisting of rubber and leather, for boot-soleing and floor-covering purposes—	
As indiarubber manufactures, n.e.i.	15 % *ad val.*

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—*continued.*

Articles and how classed.	Rates of Import Duty.
*Muslin—	
Curtain, with cotton lace edge sewn thereon—	
As piece-goods—velvets, &c.	15 % *ad val.*
Window tasseled in the piece—	
As piece-goods—cotton and linen	5 % „
Pads, aseptic dental—	
As surgical and dental instruments...	Free.
Saw frames, with saw blades attached—	
As tools of trade	Free.
*Spirits—Excise—	
Methylated (Excise Tariff)	6*d.* per liquid gall.
Studs or nails, with fancy heads, for coffins—	
As metals, plated ware	20 % *ad val.*
*Tapestry mantel bordering, fringed in the piece—	
Cotton—	
As piece-goods, cotton	5 % „
Wool or silk—	
As piece-goods, woollens or silks	15 % „

* Revised decision.

Import Duty on Cocoa Butter Substitutes.

The same issue of the "Gazette" contains a Notice, dated 11th April, 1905, notifying that "Cebes Cocoa Butter Substitute," being a substitute for cocoa butter, is chargeable with the duty leviable on cocoa butter (viz., 1*d.* per lb.) on importation into the Commonwealth.

NEW ZEALAND.

Customs Decisions.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the "New Zealand Gazette" for 6th April last, containing an Order (No. 763) issued by the Commissioner of Trade and Customs, relating to the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into the Colony.

The following are the principal decisions given :—

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Duty.
Aluminum paint—	
As paints mixed ready for use	5*s.* per cwt.
Benzine soap—	
As soap, n.o.e.	25 % *ad val.*
Brass haspe, staples and washboard hinges for ships—	
As ships' chandlery, n.o.e.	Free
Brazing lamp for plumber's use—	
As artificers' tools	„
Deck lights for ships, set in brass frames or unframed—	
As ship chandlery, n.o.e.	„

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NEW ZEALAND—*continued.*

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Duty.
Gas main pipes, cast-iron—	
As gas-pipes	5 % *ad val.*
Gelatine capsules, empty—	
As druggists' sundries, n.o.e....	15 % "
Gravy-salt (a mixture of salt and caramel to colour and flavour gravies)—	
As provisions, n.o.e.	20 % "
Handbills relating to proprietary medicines—	
As printed matter relating to proprietary medicines ...	25 % "
ron pipes, wrought, black or galvanised—	
As iron pipes and fittings for same	5 % "
Machine saw, including frame—	
As machine saw	Free
Monotype paper, for use in connection with linotype and type-casting machines—	
As n.o.e.	"
Post-hole digger and auger—	
As agricultural implements	"

GOLD COAST.

Customs Duties on Spirits.

A copy of the "Gold Coast Government Gazette" (extraordinary) for 25th April, 1905, has been received, containing a copy of the "Customs Tariff (Amendment) Ordinance, 1905" (No. 3 of 1905), which was assented to by the Governor of the Gold Coast Colony under date of 24th April, 1905.

The present Ordinance repeals items 4 (*a*) and (*b*) of the First Schedule to Ordinance No. 13 of 1904, relating to the duties imposed on spirits imported into the Gold Coast Colony, West of the Volta, but it, at the same time, provides for the imposition of the same rates on spirits imported at a reduced strength, as follows:—

Article.	Rates of Duty.
	s. d.
4 (*a*) Brandy, gin, rum, liqueurs and miscellaneous spirits or strong waters, not being sweetened or mixed with any article so that the degree of strength cannot be ascertained by Syke's hydrometer, not exceeding the strength of *12½ degrees under* proof ... ... Per *Imperial* gallon or part thereof	4 6
(*b*) And for every degree or part of a degree over the strength of *12½ degrees under* proof— An additional duty the *Imperial* gallon or part thereof	0 2

NOTE.—The alterations effected by the new Ordinance are given in italics.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Sugar Convention Ordinance, 1904.

A copy of the "Sugar Convention Ordinance, 1904" (No. 18 of 1904), has been received which was enacted by the Governor of British Honduras, with the consent of the Legislative Council, on 27th October last, for the purpose of giving effect to the provisions of the Sugar Convention of 1902.

The above Ordinance empowers the Governor-in-Council to make an Order prohibiting the importation of bounty-fed sugar into the Colony from any foreign country, and also to lay down such regulations under the Ordinance as may appear necessary.

EGYPT.

Valuation Tariff for Petroleum.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 15th May contains the following revised Valuation Tariff for use in assessing import duties on petroleum, which came into force on the 16th May, and is to remain in force until the 15th October next, or until denunciation:—

Description.	Unit.	Valuation.†
		Millièmes.‡
American petroleum	Per case	200
"Safety" "	"	230
Russian "	Per case (containing two cans)	154
	Per can (not in case)	62
" " in bulk, at a temperature of 62°	Per 66 lbs.	80
	Per ton of 1,000 kilogs.	2,673

† Duty is levied on these valuations at the rate of 8 per cent.
‡ 1,000 milliémes = £E 1 = 1*l.* 0*s.* 6*d.*

NORWAY.

Tariff Modifications (*continued from p.* 360 *of last week's "Journal"*).

[Krona = 1*s.* 1⅛*d.* Kilog. = 2·2046 lbs].

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty.	
			Old.	New.
			Kron.	Kron.
187	Carpets and horse clothing of animal hair	Kilog.	0·30	0·40
188	Felt of animal hair, not dyed or printed [also boiler felt of all kinds*]	"	Free	0·10

* Words in square brackets added in new tariff.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
	Gloves and mittens—		Kron.	Kron.
191	Of mixed silk, as also those wholly or partly of skin, sewn or merely cut out ...	Kilog.	8·00	10·00
193	Of cotton, linen, or wool, other than those of coarse knitted woollen tissue, and those trimmed with embroidery, or silk, blonde, lace, or the like, or lined with silk	"	1·10	1·50
	Hats and caps, other than those trimmed with flowers, feathers, or lace—			
195	Of pure or mixed silk, including tall and opera hats	each	1·50	1·75
196	Of other materials, trimmed with silk, &c.	"	1·00	no change
	NOTE.—Linings and borders, also ornaments, not exceeding 1½† metres of ribbon, are not regarded as trimming.			
197	Of all kinds of felt, and of woollen stuffs (except knitted)	"	0·50	0·60
197	Wholly or partly of fur (caps of Pennsylvania, sable, or marten excepted)	"	0·50	0·75
198	Other hats or caps, provided they cannot be classified as hosiery	"	0·20	0·25
199	Hat material of felt (felt hat shapes)	kilog.	1·50	2·00
	Horn [including whalebone]*—			
211	Manufactures (other than buttons) not elsewhere mentioned‡	"	1·00	1 20
	Musical Instruments—			
	Pianos—			
217	Grand	each	150·00	180·00
218	Square or upright... ...	"	90·00	120·00
	Harmoniums—			
225	Without pedals—			
	With one stop	"	20·00	30·00
	" two stops	"		35·00
	" more than two stops	"		40·00
	[NOTE.—In the case of instruments with several key boards, an additional 10 kron. for each key board (except the first) is payable.*]			

* Words in square brackets added in new tariff.
† 1 metre in the old tariff.
‡ Including weight of immediate packing.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
			Kron.	Kron.
	Parts of musical instruments (except strings)—			
228	Keyboards and mechanisms for keyboard instruments...	Kilog.	0·25	0·10
	Earthenware and other manufactures of earth and clay—			
ex 232	Tiles—			
	Entirely of porcelain or faience	"	0·05	0·05
	Others, not elsewhere mentioned	"		0·02
245	Porcelain or biscuit [not elsewhere mentioned*] gilt, silvered, or painted ...	"	0·50	0·60
246	Emery and artificial polishing substances, such as carborundum, electrite, corundum, &c., either moulded or stamped	"	0·10	0·20
250	Cakes, including all kinds of pastry, containing vanilla, almonds, cocoanut, succade, honey, sugar, syrup, and the like† ...	"	0·35	0·50
255	Cards	"	0·10	0·30
[704]	Caseine	—	15% *ad val.*	Free
	Clothing and made-up articles of tissue, not elsewhere mentioned—			
	Impregnated or coated with oil, varnish, india-rubber, or similar substances, or manufactured of such stuffs, or coated with celluloid—			
261	When the tissue is wholly or partly of wool ...	Kilog.	2·00	2·60
262	Other (except tissue wholly or partly of silk)	"	1·00	1·20
263	Other, as well as sewn parts thereof, even if they are not ready for use—			
	A. Linen (even coloured or printed) imported starched‡	"	1·75	2·00

* Words in square brackets added in new tariff.

† Including weight of immediate packing.

‡ Including weight of boxes, paper, and similar packing.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
	Clothing, &c.—*cont.*		Kron.	Kron.
	B. Neckties, scarves†—			
	Of pure silk	Kilog.	not separately mentioned	12·00
	Of mixed silk	"		8·00
	Other	"		4·00
	C. Other, dutiable according to the principal component material of the external tissue, with the following surtaxes—			
	(*a*) When the principal component of the external tissue consists of cotton, linen, and the like, a surtax of	"	0·50	1·00
	(*b*) When it consists of wool, a surtax of ...	"	1·00	2·00
	(*c*) When it consists of pure or mixed silk, a surtax of	"	2·00	3·00
	D. When the stuff is trimmed with embroidery (even machine made [or appliqué*] embroidery) or ornamented with blonde, lace, or ornamental small wares, beads, silk bows, silk tissue, fur, and the like; or when any part of the exterior tissue (not including ordinary collars, usual button trimmings, button holes, or ordinary ribbon or braid borders) is subject to a higher duty than the principal tissue, or when the articles of clothing are lined with silk (exclusive of interior facing) the surtax is as follows—			
	(*a*) When the principal tissue consists of cotton (cotton embroidery on cotton articles, which is dutiable as the article to which applied, excepted), linen or the like, a surtax of	..	1·00	1·50

* Words in square brackets added in new tariff.
† Including cards and similar immediate packing.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
	Clothing, &c.—*cont.*		Kron.	Kron.
	(*b*) When the principal tissue consists of wool, a surtax of ...	Kilog.	2·00	4·00
	(*c*) When the principal tissue consists of pure or mixed silk, a surtax of	"	4·00	6·00
	Buttons and parts thereof—			
266	Other (*i.e.*, other than those separately mentioned in Nos. 264–5 of the Tariff); also button shapes... ...	"	1·00	1·20
	Cork—			
270	Stoppers, not mounted [including "crowncork"; also rings and discs of cork]*...	"	Free	0·50
272	Cork soles	"	"	0·13
272	In sheets in combination with other materials, including linoleum and similar stuffs	"	0·13	0·18
	Cereals—			
	Not ground—			
276	Oats	100 kilogs.	Free	0·60
	Ground—			
	(*a*) Groats—			
281	Of buckwheat	"	0·50	0·60
282	Of barley, whole or split; also pearled barley groats	"	0·50	0·60
	(*b*) Flour—			
286	Of buckwheat and rye ...	"	0·30	0·50
288	Of oats	"	0 60	1 00
293	Caraway seeds, not ground ...	Kilog.	0·25	Free
	Baskets and basket-makers' wares—			
306	Other than those of twigs or of chip, and not trimmed with tissue	"	0·60	0·80
315	Toys of all kinds without regard to the material, or parts thereof†	"	2·00	3·00
	Glue or size—			
317	Liquid glue, roller paste, hectograph and autograph paste, diamond cement "*syndetikon*" and the like†	"	0 15	0 20
319	Other kinds (*i.e.* other than those mentioned in the Tariff)	"	0·05	0·08
325	Yarn of flax or hemp, of two or more threads, unbleached ...	"	0·06	0·11

* Words in square brackets added in new tariff.
† Including the weight of immediate packing.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
			Kron.	Kron.
328	Jute yarn, single, undyed ...	Kilog.	0·03	0·04
	Flax, hemp, manilla hemp, jute and the like, manufactured—			
	Ropemakers' wares—			
333	Untarred, 2 ins. or less in diameter, unbleached ...	"	0·06	0·10
335	Horse girths and furniture webbing	"	0·15	0·18
336	Fishing nets (seines and nets)	"	0·07	0·15
337	Rugs, carpets, and carpeting	"	0·30	0·35
339	Tissues combined with caoutchouc, gutta-percha and the like, and belts of the same ‡	"	1·10	1·50
340	Drills and damasks, also handkerchiefs, not dutiable under a class subject to a higher duty*	"	0·70	0·80
341	Hosiery, knitted, crocheted, netted or woven, dyed or not, including made up wearing apparel of knitted stuffs, even with buttons, lining, borders, straps, and the like of a material subject to a higher duty than such articles of clothing ...	"	1·10	1·25
343	Blonde, lace, embroidered lengths, insertions, &c.; also bobbinet and tulle... ...	"	4·00	6·00
	†"Other" manufactures of the above-mentioned textile materials—			
	(*a*) Of flax or hemp—			
346	Of several colours, not printed	"	0·65	0·75
	Of one colour or bleached—			
347	Containing not more than 25 threads in warp and weft in 1 sq. c.m.	"	0·27	0·30
348	Containing over 25 but not more than 50 threads	"	0·40	0·50
	Other manufactures of flax or hemp, unbleached—			
350	Containing not more than 25 threads in warp and weft in a square of 1 c.m.	"	0·10	0·15
351	Containing more than 25 but not more than 50 threads...	"	0·20	0·30
	New note to linen, etc., category.—All manufactures which are not entirely unbleached are to be regarded as bleached.			

* Including weight of immediate wrapping.
† *i.e.*, Other than those separately mentioned in the tariff.
‡ For belts: including weight of immediate packing.

(*To be continued.*)

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ITALY.

Tariff Classification.

The Italian "Gazzetta Ufficiale" for the 22nd May contains a Decree of the Italian Minister of Finance, assimilating, for tariff purposes, non-medicinal aperient tonic wines, made with natural wine and bitter drugs, to "vermouth made with natural wine." Such wines will accordingly be dutiable as "wines."

GREECE—EGYPT.

Prolongation of Helleno-Egyptian Commercial Convention.

With reference to the notice which appeared in the "Journal" for the 17th November last, relative to the denunciation of the Helleno-Egyptian Commercial Convention, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a telegram from H.M. Agent and Consul-General at Cairo, reporting that an Agreement has been concluded between the Greek and Egyptian Governments, prolonging the Convention in question until the 31st March, 1906, in order to give time for the signature and ratification of a fresh Convention.

BULGARIA.

Marking and Packing of Imported Yarns and Tissues.

With reference to the notice which appeared on p. 408 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 1st December last, relating to the Bulgarian Law prohibiting the importation of goods bearing false marks, attention may be drawn to the following Bulgarian Regulations affecting the marking, &c., of imported yarns and tissues. In the case of tissues of hemp, linen, cotton, or wool, or of mixtures of these materials, each piece must be folded in such a way as to indicate correctly, in accordance with the custom of the trade, the number of yards or metres which it contains. Similarly, yarns must be put up in such a way as to give a substantially correct idea, in respect of arrangement and number of hanks, of the count of the yarn. Cotton yarns must be put up in accordance with the system of numbering (English or metrical) in use in the country from which they are imported.

Short-reeling.—In view of the practice in certain foreign factories of preparing for the Bulgarian market "short-reeled" yarns, *i.e.*, yarns with a fictitious and incorrect "count," the Bulgarian Government have decided that the "count" indicated in cases of such practice cannot be regarded as a statement of the customary "count" of the yarn. Consequently, declarations of merchants to the effect that their yarn is "put up in accordance with the method of numbering in use in the producing factory" will only

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be accepted in so far as the number of hanks contained in a package is exact—in other words, in so far as the length (and therefore the thickness) of the yarn really corresponds with the "count" indicated by the manner of putting up.

ROUMANIA.

Import Duty on Rice.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that a Law modifying the import duty on rice has been passed by the Roumanian Legislature.

In accordance with this Law, which is already in force, husked rice is subject to duty at the rate of 7 frs. 50 cts. instead of 5 frs. per 100 kilogs. (3*s.* 0½*d.* instead of 2*s.* 0¼*d.* per cwt.); while the duty on unhusked rice is reduced from 5 frs. to 2 frs. 50 cts. per 100 kilogs. (from 2*s.* 0¼*d.* to 1*s.* 0¼*d.* per cwt.).

VENEZUELA.

Duty on Imports at Pampatar.—Facilities for Transhipment.

With reference to the notice which appeared in the "Journal" for the 20th April, on the subject of the opening of the port of Pampatar for import and export trade, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of the Decree authorising the opening of the port in question.

Goods imported at Pampatar for consumption in the island of Margarita are to pay a uniform duty of 10 per cent. *ad valorem.* Facilities are to be established for the storage of goods at Pampatar, and for their transhipment to the mainland under bond for the payment of duties.

The port of Porlamar was to be closed to foreign trade on the opening of Pampatar, but the ports of Porlamar and Juan Griego will continue to be open for coasting trade.

The complete translation of the Decree may be seen by persons interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

JAPAN.

Salt Monopoly: Importation Prohibited.

The Board of Trade are informed that, under the provisions of a Law establishing a Government salt monopoly, the importation of salt into Japan by private individuals not specially authorised by Government, is prohibited from 1st June, 1905.

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

RUSSIA.

New Port on the Black Sea.

The "Journal de St. Pétersbourg" of 13th/26th May states that the Directorate-General of Commercial Ports and Merchant Shipping is about to construct a large central port at Touapse, 70 miles from Novorossisk.

SWITZERLAND.

Through Railway Rates.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the British Commercial Agent in Switzerland (Mr. J. C. Milligan) copies of certain tariffs of through railway rates from Swiss towns to German and French ports, as well as from Basle to London, and from various Swiss stations to Antwerp and Ostend. These documents may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Mr. Milligan remarks that there are no combined railway and steamship rates from Switzerland to oversea ports (except to London), and that the only through rates to England are those from Basle to London.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Railway Rates from Chicago.

With reference to the notice published on p. 322 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 16th February last, and to the statement published on p. 217 of the "Journal" of 4th May, a despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Chicago (Mr. A. Finn), giving a list of railway rates from Chicago to New York and San Francisco, under three headings, viz.:—"Internal rate," "If for export" and "To Auckland, New Zealand, and Sydney, Australia."

This list may be consulted on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

MEXICO.

Carriage of Explosives and Inflammable Materials on Railways.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico of 8th May contains the text of a circular issued by the Government modifying the regulations at present in force as to the carriage of explosives and inflammable materials on Mexican railways.

The "Diario" may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Shipping and Transport.

VENEZUELA.

Opening to Foreign Trade of Port of La Ceiba.

A despatch has been received from H.M. Chargé d'Affaires at Caracas (Mr. Percy C. Wyndham) transmitting copy and translation of a Decree opening the port of La Ceiba, on the Lake of Maracaibo, to foreign trade.

The jurisdiction of the La Ceiba Customs will be from the mouth of the River Zulia-Catatumbo to the mouth of the River Misoa or Pauji.

MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Mineral Production of Tasmania.

The following table, compiled by the Government geologist, and forwarded to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade by Mr. E. A. Nowell, clerk of the Executive and Legislative Council of Tasmania, shows, as far as can be ascertained, the quantities and values of metals and minerals raised in Tasmania in the quarters ending 30th September and 31st December, 1904:—

—	September Quarter, 1904.		December Quarter, 1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		£		£
Gold, fine ... ... Ozs.	16,755	71,170	17,803	75,624
Silver lead ore ... ... Tons	14,237	58,991	14,851	52,265
Blister copper ... ... "	2,044	138,685	2,016	149,004
Copper ore ... ... "	—	—	64	1,320
Native copper ... ... "	—	—	212	14,416
Tin ore ... ... "	869	66,798	872	70,157
Iron ore ... ... "	2,000	800	1,900	750
Coal ... ... "	20,890	17.757	12,562	10,678
Flux ore ... ... "	3,133	1,523	2,180	933
Wolfram ore ... ... "	—	—	15	1,147
Bismuth ore ... ... "	—	—	6	15
Total value...	—	355,724	—	376,309

From the quarterly reports it appears that the total value of metals and minerals raised in the year 1904 was 1,509,847*l.*, as compared with 1,354,044*l.* in 1903, an increase of 155,803*l.*

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Mineral Exports.

The following particulars of the mineral exports from Newfoundland in the year ended 30th June, 1904, compared with the preceding year, are taken from the report on the Colony recently issued by the Colonial Office:—

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

—	1902–3.	1903–4.
	Dollars.	Dollars.
Barytes ...	1,840	6,878
Copper ore	378,041	403,971
Iron ore...	692,825	526,285
Pyrites ...	167,439	311,162
Slate ...	57,700	39,850
Total ...	1,297,845	1,288,146

The exports went chiefly to the United Kingdom, the United States and Canada. The United Kingdom took in 1903-04, 199,086 dols. worth of copper ore, 56,575 dols. of iron ore, and 38,750 dols. of slate, as compared with 207,228 dols., 92,935 dols. and 57,700 dols. respectively in 1902-03. The exports to Canada included 209,000 dols. worth of iron ore in 1903-04, against 313,780 dols. in 1902-03. The exports to the United States comprised, in 1903-04, 204,885 dols. worth of copper ore, 63,680 dols. of iron ore, and 311,162 dols. of pyrites, against 170,813 dols., 92,660 dols., and 159,549 dols. respectively in 1902-03.

The exports to Holland consisted entirely of iron ore to the value of 197,030 dols. as compared with 188,250 dols. in 1902-3. There were no mineral exports to Germany in 1903-04.

FRANCE.

Coal Trade at Tréport.

Referring to the trade in coal, which is one of the chief articles of import at Tréport, the British Vice-Consul at that town (Mr. E. Harrison Barker) states, in his recent report, that good house coal from South Wales can be laid down at Tréport, at the prices which have ruled during the past year, at about 1*l.* per ton, but it is never retailed at less than 2*l.* per ton. If British coal were sold at Tréport at a reasonable profit the consumption could hardly fail to be largely increased throughout the district. Some Scotch coal is imported for industrial purposes. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,368.)

FRANCE—NEW CALEDONIA.

Proposed Establishment of Blast Furnaces.

According to "La Feuille de Renseignements" (the official organ of the French Colonial Office), the mining industry in New Caledonia is passing through a severe crisis. It has been suggested that the establishment of blast furnaces in the colony would ameliorate the situation in some degree. These furnaces, it is said, could produce matt containing an alloy of nickel and cobalt which would find a ready sale in Europe and America.

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YARNS AND TEXTILES.

FRANCE.

Artificial Silk.

The British Vice-Consul at Dieppe (Mr. H. Lee-Jortin) reports that at Arques-la-Bataille a manufactory of silk from wood-pulp has been established by the Société Française "La Viscose." It is so highly thought of that the shares have gone to a considerable premium. This company acquired early in the year a factory built some two or three years ago for the manufacture of chairs (which did not succeed). These fine, roomy premises, have been adapted to this new industry, which gives employment to over 70 females, besides a large staff of men; the process is most interesting, and is the invention of an Englishman. The artificial silk as made up for despatch is similar in appearance to ordinary silk skeins. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,368.)

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Embroidery Work of Antab.

Referring to the growing importance of the cotton and silk manufacturing industries of the Aleppo district the sale of the products of which is, however, confined to Anatolia and Egypt, H.M. Consul at Aleppo (Mr. H. D. Barnham, C.M.G.), draws attention to the beautiful embroidery work of Antab and Ourfa. This industry was taken in hand by the ladies of the American mission to relieve the terrible distress caused by the Armenian massacres. It is the revival and development of an art which had nearly died out. The articles offered for sale are ladies' handkerchiefs, doyleys, table centres, collars and scarves. The material employed is cambric, silk or the finest linen from Belfast, the execution being a mixture of drawn thread work and intricate embroidery. The designs are modern, special attention being paid to the border, which is generally exquisite in both design and finish. The finest specimens of this work, such as a handkerchief a foot square, would cost about 18*s*. The ladies of the Mission are anxious that these goods should be introduced to the London market. Hitherto they have found an exclusive sale in the United States. The work done at Antab is perhaps better than that at Ourfa, and certainly the material is much finer. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,363.)

BULGARIA.

Marking and Packing of Imported Yarns and Tissues.

See notice on p. 413.

JAPAN.

Yarn Imports Declining.

H.M. Secretary of H.M. Legation at Tokio (Mr. G. Barclay) says, in his report, that the year 1904 has seen no interruption in the constant decline in the foreign yarn trade which has marked recent years. There has been practically no demand for this British staple except for 16's and 24's, which are used for special purposes, and the value of the trade, which a few years ago used to average close on 1,000,000*l*., has now fallen to 35,000*l*. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,377.)

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 27th May, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	30*s.* 11*d.*
Barley	24*s.* 4*d.*
Oats	18*s.* 8*d.*

For further particulars see p. 424.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 425, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 27th May, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

BERMUDA.

Arrowroot Industry.

The report for 1904 on the Colony of Bermuda states that there is one arrowroot factory there, which is equipped with modern plant, and is capable of producing a large quantity of this valuable commodity.

The arrowroot manufactured in the Colony is of an excellent quality and commands a high price in home and foreign markets. It is being placed on such markets at the present date (Report dated Bermuda, 15th April) in attractive packages, and in small quantities, with distinctive labels as to origin, and it is hoped that the demand for this product will increase.

The export of arrowroot in 1904 amounted to 10 tons 2 cwts., valued at 1,398*l.*, as against 9 tons 9 cwts., exported in 1903, valued at 1,300*l.*

GREECE.

Prospects of coming Currant Crop.

In his report for 1904, H.M. Consul at Patras (Mr. F. B. Wood), after giving figures of the currant crops for the years 1903-4 and 1904-5, states that the financial prospects of the coming crop are very poor indeed, unless some malady, such as peronosporos or oïdium, should cut off some portion of it; but after such a severe winter, which destroys the germs of various diseases, there is every prospect of an extremely large yield. Moreover the Greek Government will no longer agree to encash the duty in kind, as last year's experiment, owing to the difficulty of disposing of the retention currants, is likely to cause considerable loss to the national exchequer. Therefore the amount available for export will be increased by 15 per cent., and as consumption seems to be on the decline in most markets, the future for the currant growers is very black indeed.

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Agriculture.

GREECE—*continued.*

Vintage.

Mr. Wood says further that, owing to want of capital, wine growers are unable to hold a stock of casks for extraordinary circumstances, and when the vintage is abundant, as during last season, much of the wine is lost from want of receptacles. In the month of March wine was offering at the price of 2*s.* 3*d.* per barrel of 50 okes (140 lbs. weight) without finding buyers, and still the wines of Greece, if properly treated, could take their place with Sicilian, Italian, Algerian and other Mediterranean produce, and would be a source of considerable wealth to the country. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,369.)

Cotton Cultivation in the Piræus.

H.M. Consul at Piræus (The Hon. R. Walsh) states in his report for 1904, that the cultivation of cotton in Bœotia is almost wholly confined to the irrigated and fertile alluvial flats in the neighbourhood of Livadia, the capital of the province, where an area of about 13,750 acres of land is devoted to this crop every year.

The total annual production of unginned cotton is about 12,180,000 lbs., giving 3,920,000 lbs. of cotton and 8,260,000 lbs. of seed, of which 896,000 lbs. is spun into thread locally.

About half the cotton seed produced is exported to Malta, the remainder being used in the provinces for feeding cattle and sheep.

Livadia is a small town of marked agricultural and industrial prosperity, owing in a great measure to the cotton cultivation in the neighbourhood and to the water-power available from the stream flowing through the town which is utilised to drive many mills for ginning cotton and for spinning thread. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,370.)

GUATEMALA.

Coffee Crop.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Guatemala (Mr. H. A. R. Hervey) regarding the coffee crop in that Republic, to the effect that the result of the 1904 harvest was considerably below expectations. Owing to the extraordinary high price of maize (the principal food of the Indian) the cost of picking the crop was very much higher than in former years.

This year's crop will probably not be a particularly good one, as the strong north winds have greatly hindered the development of the early blossoms. Timely rains might however repair the damage, but it is too early to be able to forecast the future with any accuracy.

Low prices have caused sellers to hold back, and there are still* considerable quantities to be shipped.

* Despatch dated 8th April.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 25th May, 1905, was 79,094 (including 88 bales British West Indian and 84 bales British West African), and the number imported during the 21 weeks ended the 25th May was 1,840,322 (including 2,225 bales British West Indian and 1,003 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 25th May, 1905, 7,954 bales, and for the 21 weeks, 201,455.

For further details see p. 424.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Trade in 1903-4.

The following table showing the value of the trade of Newfoundland in the year ended 30th June, 1904, with comparative figures for the preceding year, is compiled from statistics contained in the recent report on the Colony:—

Countries.	1902-03.		1903-4.	
	Imports.	Exports.	Imports.	Exports.
	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.	Dols.
United Kingdom	2,143,464	2,173,090	2,479,138	1,993,195
Canada	2,869,898	1,102,659	3,423,225	1,102,708
United States of America...	2,920,914	1,357,031	2,991,002	1,470,497
Other countries	545,668	5,343,724	555,299	5,814,497
Total	8,479,944	9,976,504	9,448,664	10,381,897

CYPRUS.

Trade in 1904.

The following statement of the value of imports into and exports from Cyprus (excluding specie) during 1904 is based on figures published by the Chief Collector of Customs of the Island. Statistics for the preceding year are added for purposes of comparison:—

—	1903.	1904.
	£	£
Imports...	354,522	388,905
Exports	374,439	466,130

Of the total value of imports in 1904, 89,300*l.* consisted of live animals, articles of food and drink, and narcotics, as against

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Miscellaneous.

154,700*l.* in 1903; metal manufactures 18,700*l.*, as against 13,700*l.*; textile manufactures 116,200*l.*, as against 74,200*l.*; and leather (including boots and shoes, saddlery and harness) 25,100*l.*, as against 16,500*l.*

Included in exports in 1904 were animals (live) to the value of 50,500*l.*, as against 25,200*l.* in 1903; carobs 104,300*l.*, as against 80,400*l.*; fruit 31,900*l.*, as against 36,400*l.*; and silk cocoons 13,000*l.*, as against 18,000*l.*

BERMUDA.

Trade in 1904.

The following table, showing the value of the trade of Bermuda in the years 1903 and 1904, is based on figures contained in the report on the Colony recently issued by the Colonial Office:—

From and To	Imports.		Exports.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom	172,347	190,995	3,806	3,785
Canada	65,637	86,150	5,032	4,606
Other British Colonies	9,457	12,705	4,256	3,730
United States of America	289,239	295,054	112,249	118,184
Other Countries	3,008	5,075	—	—
Total	539,688	589,979	125,343	130,305

LEEWARD ISLANDS.

Trade of Dominica in 1904.

The following abstract of the total value, of the imports and exports of the Presidency of Dominica, from and to the United Kingdom, British Colonies and Foreign Countries, in 1904, is taken from a statement received from the Treasurer of the Island, figures for 1903 being added for purposes of comparison:—

From and to	Imports.		Exports.					
			Produce and Manufactures of the Colony.		Other.		Total.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
United Kingdom ...	38,822	36,322	32,933	38,088	6,363	518	39,296	38,606
British Colonies ...	22,514	22,611	4,664	6,520	1,355	1,300	6,019	7,820
Foreign countries ...	30,606	32,155	11,212	11,005	10,380	5,585	21,592	16,590
Total ... £	91,942	91,088	48,809	55,613	18,098	7,403	66,907	63,016

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Miscellaneous.

NORWAY.

Trade in Firebricks and Fireclay.

A communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from H.M. Consul-General at Christiania (Viscount Melville), in course of which it is stated that the "Bergestad Teglvœrk and Chamotte Fabrik" at Porsgrund, appears to be the only factory for firebricks in Norway of any importance.

The total imports of firebricks in 1903 were about 6,060 tons, of which about 4,450 tons were from Sweden; of the total import, some 48 tons were re-exported. No Norwegian firebricks were exported in that year.

Of fireclay about 16,630 tons were imported in 1903, mostly into Christiania, Porsgrund, and Drammen; of this total 4,613 tons came from the United Kingdom, 3,353 tons from Denmark, 2,694 tons from Germany, and 2,213 tons from Belgium.

CHINA.

Trade of Canton.

The following summary of the returns of trade of Canton for the past four years is taken from the report for 1904, by H.M. Consul-General at that city (Mr. J. Scott):—

Foreign Trade.

—	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Imports	16,514,578	16,504,924	23,633,179	25,959,120
Exports	20,883,922	35,722,600	44,061,813	39,209,162
Total	37,398,500	52,227,524	67,694,992	65,168,282

Coasting Trade.

—	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.	Taels.
Imports	19,839,346	23,748,818	38,226,131	26,926,517
Exports	2,752,418	3,768,365	4,638,703	4,152,277
Total	22,591,764	27,517,183	42,864,834	31,078,794

Rates of exchange:—1901, 2*s.* 11½*d.*; 1902, 2*s.* 7⅛*d.*; 1903, 2*s.* 7⅝*d.*; 1904, 2*s.* 10¾*d.*

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the **Number** of **Bales** of **Cotton Imported** and **Exported** at the **Various Ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the Week and 21 Weeks ended 25th May, 1905 :—

—	Week ended 25th May, 1905.	21 Weeks ended 25th May, 1905.	Week ended 25th May, 1905.	21 Weeks ended 25th May, 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	68,831	1,527,368	5,563	142,747
Brazilian	—	27,946	—	507
East Indian	2,085	22,391	337	6,192
Egyptian	7,226	234,563	2,014	50,726
Miscellaneous	952*	28,054†	40	1,283‡
Total	79,094	1,840,322	7,954	201,455

* Including 88 bales British West Indian, and 84 bales British West African.
† " 2,225 bales British West Indian and 1,003 bales British West African.
‡ " 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the **Average Price** of **British Corn,** per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 27th May, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 27th May, 1905	30	11	24	4	18	8
Corresponding week in—						
1898	46	3	26	10	21	0
1899	25	4	24	4	18	1
1900	25	5	24	4	18	6
1901	27	7	23	8	19	9
1902	31	6	25	1	22	10
1903	27	8	23	7	18	5
1904	26	9	19	8	16	7

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 27th May, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 27th May, 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	9,795	*10,122*
Sheep and lambs	"	8,768	*5,463*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	175	*233*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	94,968	*89,352*
Mutton	"	87,738	*39,316*
Pork	"	5,322	*4,423*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	102,194	*93,933*
Beef	"	2,311	*3,820*
Hams	"	31,068	*33,436*
Pork	"	4,371	*5,078*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	15,363	*12,677*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	10,455	*10,997*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	71,137	*74,477*
Margarine	"	18,093	*15,423*
Cheese	"	35,247	*34,629*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	96	*114*
" condensed	"	18,289	*19,286*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	29	*138*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	507,620	*547,972*
Poultry	Value £	4,202	*14,563*
Game	"	1,055	*172*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	13,450	*6,244*
Lard	"	30,529	*40,755*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,885,200	*1,917,000*
Wheat meal and flour	"	114,000	*211,800*
Barley	"	227,000	*582,000*
Oats	"	377,800	*416,300*
Peas	"	39,294	*55,180*
Beans	"	24,360	*15,420*
Maize or Indian corn	"	782,900	*514,000*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	23,273	*42,686*
Apricots and peaches	"	255	*50*
Bananas	Bunches.	124,746	*110,881*
Cherries	Cwts.	11,269	*14,397*
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	61	*127*
Grapes	"	181	*246*
Lemons	"	18,750	*6,467*
Oranges	"	76,140	*81,750*
Pears	"	55	*1,033*
Plums	"	—	—
Strawberries	"	1,919	*1,656*
Unenumerated	"	693	*1,124*
Hay...	Tons.	2,958	*2,895*
Straw	"	1,819	*2,285*
Moss Litter*	"	1,721	—
Hops	Cwts.	541	*367*
Locust Beans	"	—	*7,600*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	226,922	*87,640*
Potatoes	Cwts.	214,027	*197,159*
Tomatoes	"	20,637	*30,237*
Unenumerated	Value £	11,021	*10,512*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	4,255	*3,355*
Preserved by canning...	"	4,097	*2,217*

* Not shown in 1904.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of April, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* 1*d.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the May issue:—State of the Labour Market in April; Tenth Abstract of Labour Statistics; Emigration and Immigration in 1904; Relief of the Unemployed; Coal Exports, 1900–1904; and recent Conciliation Cases.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the Annual Series issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,378. Trade of Cochin China, 1904.

Statistics of export of rice and other produce from Saigon.

Comparative statement of imports of French and foreign piece-goods, 1887–1903.

Tables of general imports and exports up to the year 1903.

Customs regulations, &c., for Port of Saigon.

No. 3,379. Trade of Porto Rico, 1904.

General improvement in industry, due to development in production of sugar and manufacture of tobacco.

Tables showing interchange of trade with United States, United Kingdom, and foreign countries.

Lapse of interest in cotton growing.

This publication contains also reports by the British Vice-Consuls at Ponce, Arecibo and Arroyo.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,380. Trade of Samoa, 1904.

Growth of kola, caoatchouc, cacao and copra industries.

Notes on import trade.

Table of Customs duties.

Returns of imports, exports, and shipping.

No. 3,381. Trade of Bordeaux, 1904.

Decrease in nearly all articles of import except coal.

Comparative figures of trade in chemicals.

Opening for machinery and tools.

Table of imports from the United Kingdom.

Statistics of wine industry.

Notes on other exports.

This publication contains also reports by the British Vice-Consuls at Bayonne, La Rochelle, Pauillac, and Tonnay Charente, with returns of imports, exports and shipping.

No. 3,382. Trade of Bussorah, 1904.

Poor crops expected in 1905.

Development of liquorice trade.

Import and export notes and statistics.

No. 3,383. Trade of Nice, 1904.

Opening for fruit, flower and vegetable cultivation, and of mimosa in particular.

Returns of imports, exports and shipping for Nice, Cannes and Mentone.

No. 3,384. Trade of Caracas, 1904.

Continued improvement in trade.

Lack of facilities at new ports of Cristobal Colon and Tucacas.

Effect of matches, rum and tobacco monopolies.

Trading on the Orinoco and the coast.

This publication contains also reports by the British Vice-Consuls at La Guaira, Puerto Cabello and Maracaibo.

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORT.

A report from the following British Colony has been issued by the Colonial Office since the last issue of the "Board of Trade Journal," viz.:—

No. 447. Bermuda.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Commercial No. 2 (1905), *Suez Canal. Returns of Shipping and Tonnage*, 1902, 1903, *and* 1904. [*Cd.* 2,528.] *Price* 1½*d.*

This is the annual report of the British Suez Canal Directors, and contains returns of shipping passed through the canal in 1904. The number and net tonnage of the vessels which passed

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Government Publications.

through the Suez Canal during the last three years, was as under:—

—	Vessels.	Net Tonnage.
1902	3,708	11,248,413
1903	3,761	11,907,288
1904	4,237	13,401,835

Last year 63·2 per cent. of the vessels using the canal, and 65·9 per cent. of the net tonnage were British, as compared with 60·6 and 62·2 per cent. respectively in 1903.

East India (Afghanistan). Treaty between H.M. Government and the Amir of Afghanistan. [*Cd.* 2534]. *Price* 1½*d.*

This publication contains the translation of the treaty signed at Kabul on the 21st March, 1905, between Mr. Louis W. Dane C.S.I., Foreign Secretary representing the Government of India, and Amir Habibulla, the Amir of Afghanistan, together with a reprint of papers relating thereto.

East India. Financial Statement for 1905-6. 167. *Price* 1*s.* 11*d.*

This is a copy of the Financial Statement for 1905-6 of the Finance Department of the Government of India and of the proceedings of the Legislative Council of the Governor General thereon.

Emigration Statistics of Ireland for the year 1904. [*Cd.* 2467.] *Price* 2*d.*

According to this return the number of emigrants who left Irish ports decreased from 40,659 in 1903 to 37,415 in 1904, the later figure representing 8·5 per 1000 of the estimated population of Ireland in the middle of the year. As regards the destination of the emigrants, being natives of Ireland, who left during 1904, 82·9 per cent. went to the United States, 9·4 per cent. to Great Britain, 5·6 per cent. to Canada, 1·2 per cent. to New Zealand and Australia, and 0·9 per cent. to other countries.

Australia: New Zealand. Correspondence relating to Merchant Shipping Legislation. [*Cd.* 2.483.] *Price* 1*s.* 9*d.*

This publication contains the correspondence between the Board of Trade and the Governor of New Zealand, and between the Board of Trade and the Governor-General of Australia, relative to the "Shipping and Seamen's Act Amendment Act, 1896," and the Reserved Bill, "The Shipping and Seamen Act, 1903," of New Zealand, and on the Bill, "Navigation and Shipping Act, 1904," of Australia. Copies of the Act and Bills referred to are appended to the correspondence.

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.—In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Among the branches of work now carried on by the Imperial Institute at South Kensington are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which is exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Imperial Institute Bulletin," issued quarterly, contains information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

March, 1905.

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SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

March, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

To Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

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Absorbent Blottings—
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife ... ...

Adamantine Clinker (Regd.)—
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Admiralty Charts—
Potter, J. D., 145, Minories ...

Agents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Agricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. ...
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Air Compressors—
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Ale, Beer, and Stout Merchants—
Daukes & Co., Strand, London

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United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
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Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.)

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
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Ammunition Manufacturers—
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Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Anti-friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
The Atlas Metal & Alloys Co., Ltd., 52, Queen Victoria Street, E.C. ... 2

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E.

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife Bros. & Lilley, 313, Broad Street, Birmingham

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Bags and Sacks—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Barrels, Casks, Shooks, &c.—
Rankin, G. & J., Ltd., 2/4, Houlgrove St., Liverpool...

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton ... ...

Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. ...

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham... ...
Evered & Co., London and Birmingham ... ...
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C.
Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London ...

Bellows—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...

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Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

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Billiard Table Manufacturers—
Cox & Yeman, London, S.W.
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Binoxide of Barium—
Bessler, Waechter & Co., 18 & 19, Fenchurch Street, E.C.
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...

Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, R., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 58, City Road, E.C.... ... ...

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. ... ...

Blacking (Nubian)—
The Nubian Manufacturing Co., Lorrimore St., London, S.E. ... ...

Blankets—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester.

Bleaching Powder—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ...
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Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton C
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Boiler Makers and Heating Engineers—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Boiler Tubes—
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Brick & Tile Manufacturers—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles)
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

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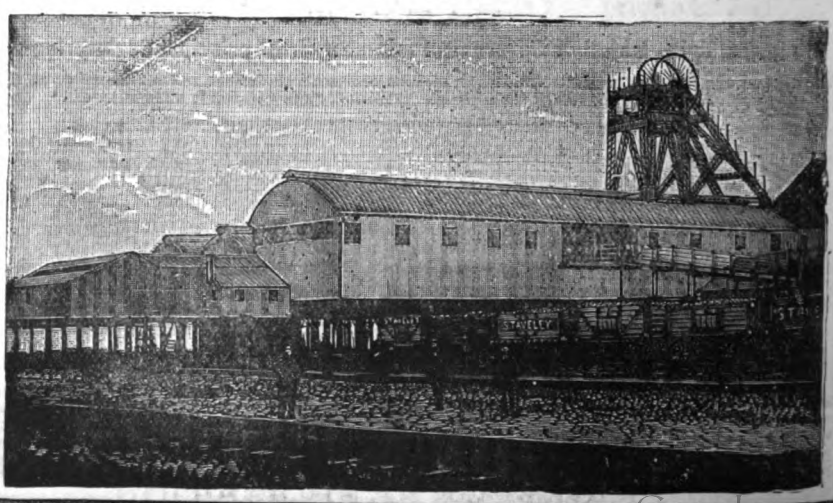

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

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Brush Manufacturers—
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Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Bulbs—
Cooper, Taber & Co., Ltd., London ... ...

Bunting Manufacturers—
Riley, E., & Co., Providence Street Mills, Leeds ... ...

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Carpets and Rugs—
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Carriage Builders—
Forder & Co., Ltd., Warrant Holders to H.M. the King, Upper St. Martin's Lane, W.C.; Works, Wolverhampton ... ...

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Cement Manufacturers—
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Chemical Manufacturers—
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Brunner, Mond & Co., Ltd., Northwich, Cheshire ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith ... ...
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...
Miller, Jas., Son & Co., Glasgow ... ...
The Grove Chemical Co., Ltd., Appley Bridge, Wigan 2
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Chemical Manure Manufacturers—
Anglo - Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd., Leith, N.B. ... ...

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

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Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London, E.C. (Scott's Emulsion) ...
Stevenson & Howell, Ltd., 95A, Southwark Street, London, S.E. ... ...

Chilled Shot—
The Abbey Improved Chilled Shot Co., Ltd., Newcastle-on-Tyne 2

Chimney Cowl Makers—
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Chronometers—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...

Clocks and Watches—
Dent, M. F., & Co. (to the Queen), 33 and 34, Cockspur Street, London... ...
Fellheimer, J. M. & D., London, E.C. ... ...

Cloth Finishing Machines—
Robertson & Orchar, Dundee C

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Coffee Mill Manufacturers—
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ESTABLISHED 1860.

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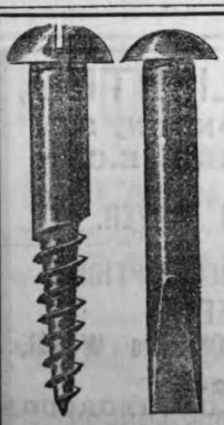

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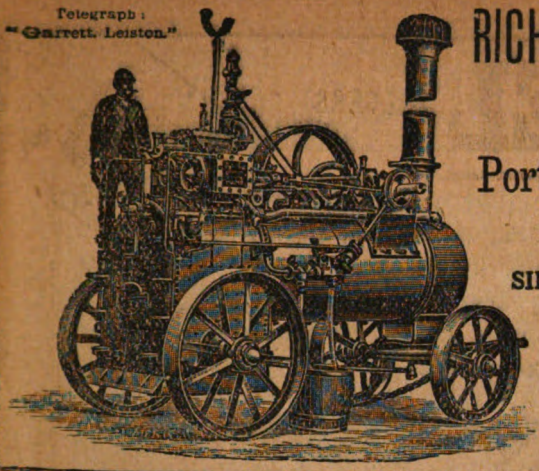

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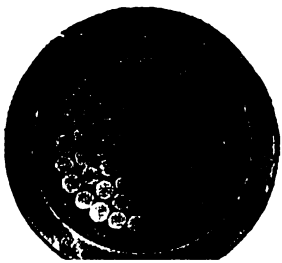

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THE Board of Trade Journal

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

JUNE 8, 1905.

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TWICKENHAM.—June 12th.—Erection of a school, for the Urban District Council. H. J. Saunders, clerk to the Education Authority.

ACTON.—June 12th.—Erection of public offices, for the Urban District Council. Mr. W. Hodson, clerk, 242, High Street, Acton.

BURSLEM.—June 13th.—Erection of a school, for the Town Council. Mr. A. Ellis, town clerk.

COLCHESTER.—June 13th.—Construction of an engine-house, boiler-house, and coal store, for the Corporation. The Town Clerk.

CROMER.—June 19th.—Erection of storeyard buildings and fire station, for the Urban District Council. Mr. J. K. Frost, clerk.

CONTRACTS.

DARTFORD.—June 19th.—Construction and erection of car-sheds, for the Urban District Council. Mr. W. Kay, clerk.

RHYL.—June 24th.—Taking down old police station buildings and erecting a public free library, for the Urban District Council. Mr. A. Rowlands, clerk.

STOCKPORT.—June 13th.—Supply and erection of wrought-iron unclimable hurdles and three pairs of gates, for the Corporation. Mr. J. Atkinson, Borough Surveyor.

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SYDNEY (AUSTRALIA).—September 1st.—Supply and delivery of iron and steel, for the Public Works Department. The Secretary for Public Works.

TODMORDEN.—June 12th.—Construction of a brick and concrete egg-shaped sewer, for the Corporation. Mr. D. Sutcliffe, Town Clerk.

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WAKEFIELD.—June 10th.—Carrying out of private street works, for the City Council. The Town Clerk.

SWANSEA.—June 13th.—Execution of private street works, for the Corporation. Mr. J. Thomas, town clerk.

HENDON.—June 14th.—Making up part of a road, for the Rural District Council. Mr. F. J. Seabrook, clerk.

FINCHLEY.—June 17th.—Making up several private streets, for the Urban District Council. Mr. E. H. Lister, clerk.

PRESTON (LANCS).—June 19th.—Street works, for the Corporation. The Borough Surveyor.

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Statistical Abstract for the United Kingdom. 1889-1903. [Cd. 2192/1904.] Price 1*s.* 3d.

Statistical Abstract for the British Empire, 1889-1903. [Cd. 2395.] Price 6*d.*

Statistical Abstract for the Colonies. 1889-1903. [Cd. 1912/04.] Price 1*s.* 10*d.*

Statistical Abstract for Foreign Countries. 1892 to 1901-02. [Cd. 2202/04.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

Statistical Tables relating to British Colonies, Possessions, and Protectorates. Part XXVII. 1902. [Cd. 2184/04.] Price 7*s.*

Tables showing the Progress of Merchant Shipping in the United Kingdom and the principal maritime countries, 1903. [294/1904.] Price 9*d.*

Tramways and Light Railways (Street and Road) Return. [310/05.] Price 6*d.*

II.—MONTHLY RETURNS—

Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for each month during the Year. May, 1905. [25-IV/05.] Price 1*s.*

Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions. [103-II/1905.] Price 4½*d.*

III.—OCCASIONAL RETURNS:—

Alcoholic Beverages.—Production and Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages (Wine, Beer, and Spirits) in the various European Countries and United States. [345/1904.] Price 9d.

British and Foreign Trade and Industry. Memoranda, Statistical Tables and Charts. 1st Series [Cd. 1761/1903.] Price 3*s.* 6*d.* 2nd Series [Cd. 2337/04.] Price 3*s.* 6*d.*

British Colonies (Duties on Imports). No. 299/03. Price ½*d.*

Canada (Preferential Tariff for Goods from the United Kingdom). 310/03. Price ½*d.*

Certificates of Origin. Memorandum. [Cd. 1446/03.] Price 3*d.*

Commercial Mission to South Africa.—Report from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [Cd. 1844/03.] Price 1*s.* 6*d.*

Commercial Mission to South America.—Reports from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. Brazil [Cd. 9160/98 and 9161/99.] Price 3*d.* each. Uruguay. [Cd. 9298/99.] Price 3*d.*

Commercial Mission to Persia.—Reports from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [Cd. 2146.] Price 1*s.* 3*d.* [Cd. 2281.] Price 1½*d.*

Commercial Mission to Siberia.—Report from the Special Commissioner appointed by the Board of Trade. [Cd. 2518.] Price 1*s.* 3*d.*

Commercial Travellers. Memorandum. [Cd. 1961.] Price 3*d.*

Continental Free Ports. Return. 344. Price 2½*d.*

Exports from the United Kingdom of Woollen and Cotton Goods and Cutlery in 1877, 1882, 1887, &c., and 1902. [327/03.] Price ½*d*

Food Supplies (Imported) Return. 179/03.] Price 4½*d.*

German Tariff (New) as modified by Treaties. [Cd. 2414.] Price 1*s.* 10*d.*

Imports and Exports of United Kingdom by Groups of Countries. [214/1903.] Price ½*d.*

Labour Department.—Report by the Chief Labour Correspondent on Trade Unions in 1901, with Comparative Statistics, [Cd. 1348/02.] Price 11½*d.*

Preferential Trade Return, showing the advantages granted to other countries in Sta es where British trade does not enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment. [329/1903.] Price 1½*d.*

Report to the Board of Trade by the Advisory Committee on Commercial Intelligence, with reference to their Proceedings. [Cd. 2,044/04] Price 4½*d.*

Tea and Coffee.—Statement showing the Imports of Tea and Coffee into the principal Countries of Europe, the United States, and British Colonies. [363/1902.] Price 6*d.*

Trade between the United Kingdom, Canada and Germany. Return. [328/1903.] Pric 4*d.*

Trade of the United Kingdom with Germany. [131.] Price 1½*d.*

Trade of British Colonies with Foreign Countries. [110/1904.] Price 2*d.*

Trade (Colonies and United Kingdom). Return. [262/03.] Price 2*d.*

Trade of British Possessions. Statement during the Year 1901. [Cd. 1638/03.] Price 1*d.*

Unemployed in Foreign Countries. Report. [Cd. 2304.] Price 1*s.*

Wholesale and Retail Prices in the United Kingdom in 1902, with comparative Statistical Tables for a series of years. [321/1903.] Price 2*s.* 1*d.*

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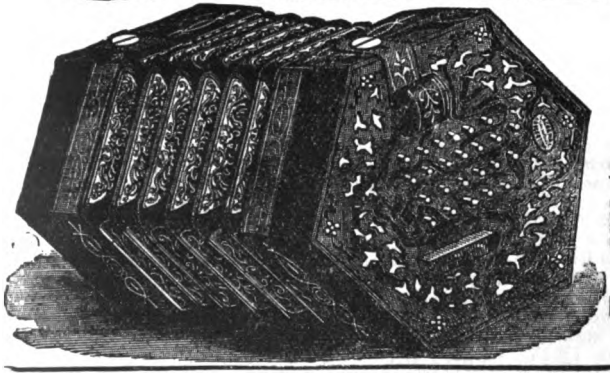

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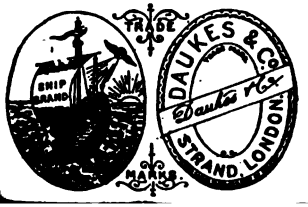

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Board of Trade Journal.

JUNE 8TH, 1905.

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Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLIX.] June 8, 1905. [No. 445

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 477.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where there are at present on view, among other exhibits, samples of certain foreign linen and union goods selling in competition with British goods on the South American market, also of certain foreign linens, cotton ticking and duck, also competitors of British goods, selling on the South African market, and samples of Chinese-made footwear (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 6th April, pp. 10-11); also samples of copper from the Besshi copper mine in Japan (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 23rd March last, p. 560).

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 478.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of—

Rolled Material for Wagons: Corrugated Sheets.

1. Rolled material for the construction of wagons, &c.,
2. Galvanised corrugated sheets, &c.,

as per specifications to be seen at the Company's Offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Rolled Material for Wagons," or as the case may be, not later than noon on Wednesday, the 14th June.

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

For each specification, a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

Railway Stores.

The Directors of the Great Indian Peninsula Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply of the following stores, namely:—Passenger engines and tenders; steel rails; steel fishing pieces; cast-iron sleepers, fastenings, chairs, &c.; steel fishbolts, nuts, and washers; fencing materials; tie bars, gibs, cotters, and split keys; wrought-iron spikes and steel creep pins; stationery; lamp glasses, &c.; spring steel.

Specifications and forms of tender may be obtained at the Company's Offices, 48, Copthall Avenue, E.C., on payment of the fee for the specification, which payment will not be returned.

Tenders must be delivered in sealed envelopes, addressed to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Passenger Engines and Tenders," or as the case may be, not later than 11 a.m. on Thursday, the 15th June.

The Directors do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

Steam Coal.

The Directors of the Bombay, Baroda and Central India Railway Company are prepared to receive up to noon on Thursday, the 15th June, tenders for the supply in Bombay of 7,000 tons best South Wales steam coal of one of the following varieties, viz.:—

Ferndale, Nixon's Navigation, Albion, Powell Duffryn, or Insole's Cymmer.

The coal is to be in all cases of the best quality mined, to be shipped under inspection on behalf of the Company, and to be delivered in Bombay by 1st September next.

Tenders must be made on forms to be obtained at the Offices of the Company, Gloucester House, Bishopsgate Street Without, London, E.C., and must quote prices in Indian currency per ton delivered. Payment will be made only in Bombay, and for the quantity delivered there, and, if not all shipped in one vessel, as follows, viz., 90 per cent. on each cargo on completion of discharge, and the remaining 10 per cent. on due completion of the contract.

The Directors reserve the right of dividing the contract between any two or more tendering firms, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

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Openings for British Trade.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A firm interested in the export of silk goods and silk mixtures (handkerchiefs and piece goods, dress materials, and partially manufactured articles of attire) are desirous of appointing a Canadian representative.

A firm of merchant shippers, produce brokers, and agents, trading with West Africa, are desirous of opening up business with Canadian exporters of butter, cheese, bacon, lard, &c.

A London firm are desirous of obtaining supplies of Canadian Wonder beans.

Canadian Enquiries.—A Canadian firm are seeking to establish relations with British manufacturers and others who may be desirous of opening up a business connection with Canada with a view to undertaking the agencies for the Dominion.

A Canadian map manufacturer is seeking supplies of cotton, in widths of forty-two inches and over, suitable for his business. Samples available on application at the Canadian Government Offices.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A company manufacturing edge tools wish to do business in Canada.

A firm of rum shippers are prepared to appoint a Canadian resident agent.

A company manufacturing bedstead, brass and other tubes wish to develop trade in Canada.

A company manufacturing saws, files, and other tools are prepared to appoint a Canadian resident agent.

A London firm possessing a connection among manufacturers of dry goods, millinery, &c., are willing to act as buying agents for Canadian importers.

A Cardiff firm with an office in London wish to develop Canadian export trade in pit-wood.

A manufacturer of chains wishes to obtain a share of Canadian trade.

A firm of agents ask to be placed in communication with Canadian producers of petrol.

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Openings for British Trade.

Canadian Enquiries.—A firm having offices in Canada and in London are prepared to represent United Kingdom manufacturers of wire rope, electrical plant, mining machinery, and flax and jute goods.

A manufacturers' agent in Montreal, selling goods on his own account, is willing to represent United Kingdom manufacturers of lace and lace curtains, tulles, corsets, buttons, blouses, and fancy goods. References furnished.

An enquiry has been made from Canada for the addresses of United Kingdom manufacturers of hardware for billiard tables, such as bolts, nuts, chalk cups, clips, &c.

A gentleman returning to Toronto is prepared to represent United Kingdom manufacturers of novelties, specialities, and patents at the Toronto Exhibition, where he has a stand.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

RUSSIA—FINLAND.

Auction Sale of Timber.

A despatch has been received at the Board of Trade, through the Foreign Office, from H.M. Consul at Helsingfors (Mr. C. J. Cooke) notifying that the following quantities of logs (chiefly fir) from the Government forests will be sold to the highest bidder on 14th August next at noon, at Raatti, near Uleaborg,

from the Ijo District, 153,820 logs,
,, Uleatnäsk District, 180,992 logs,

and on 17th August at noon, at Tornea,

from the Kemi District, 885,921 logs;

in all, 1,220,733 logs; besides 24,000 cubic metres of pulp-wood.

Further details are contained in a supplement to the Official Finnish Gazette ("Officiella Tidningar") of 28th April (No. 97), published at Helsingfors, a copy of which, it is hoped, will shortly be in the possession of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

FRANCE.

Dock Construction.

H.M. Consul at Bordeaux (Mr. R. D. G. Macdonald) states in his report for 1904, recently issued, that land has been purchased for new wet docks which it is hoped will be begun in 1906. If work progresses satisfactorily a little over 1 kilom. (1,093 yards) of new quays will be available in 1908, the maximum length of quays when finished being nearly 2,190 yards. These new docks are to be deeper than the existing lock of entrance by 1 metre (39 inches), but in order to utilise their extra depth a new lock must eventually be constructed.

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Openings for British Trade.

FRANCE—*continued.*

Electrical Machinery.

In another part of his report Mr. Macdonald says that during the last year British houses have introduced into Bordeaux drill and machine tools which are competing favourably with similar articles of German and American make. There is an opening for electrically driven machines, which are very costly and but little understood in the Bordeaux market, but it is essential to send experts to the spot to study local requirements.

River Improvement Work.

The British Vice-Consul at Bayonne (Mr. P. Schoedelin) reports that a scheme for the improvement of the bed of the Adour has been approved by Parliament and will be carried out shortly.

Cement.

The British Vice-Consul for Tonnay-Charente and Rochefort (Mr. E. Rizat) reports that British cement is not imported into those ports. Cement from the North of France is generally used instead of that from Portland. There might, perhaps, be an opening for the British produce if well pushed by energetic travellers or good agents. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,381.)

Cultivation of Fruit, Flowers, and Vegetables.

H.M. Consul at Nice (Mr. A. McMillan) in his report recently issued by the Foreign Office, states that the opportunities that the Department of the Alpes Maritimes may be said to present to British growers of fruit, flowers and vegetables, have not been taken sufficient advantage of. It is true that there is no opening for the small capitalist acting alone, but a strong "cultural exploitation," backed by adequate capital, would be able to hold its own against local competition and jealousy—either a single concern, supported by considerable capital, or several smaller concerns, acting co-operatively in dealing locally, both for sales and purchases, and in exporting to the northern markets. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,383.)

BELGIUM.

Heating Apparatus.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Mr. E. C. Hertslet) that the municipal authorities of that city are calling for tenders for the supply of a heating apparatus in a school in the Rue Louise, Antwerp. The adjudication will take place on the 20th June, and a deposit of 500 francs (20*l.*) will be required to qualify any tender.

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The conditions of the contract may be obtained from the Hôtel de Ville, Antwerp.

All tenders should be sent in sealed registered envelopes, addressed to the Burgomaster, and should reach the Hôtel de Ville not later than the 19th June.

A copy of the conditions of contract may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

SWITZERLAND.

Electrical Appliances.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) of 28th May states that there is an ever-increasing demand in Switzerland for electrical appliances, more especially in hotels. In districts where electric power is available, hotel proprietors are beginning to make use of it for washing and ironing linen, and also for the preservation of food during hot weather by means of carbonic acid presses. Electric ventilators are very largely used, as well as electric lifts for passengers and goods.

PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

Railway Plant.

The "Diario do Governo" of 30th May contains a Decree authorising the expenditure of 1,500,000 milreis (about 300,000*l.*) on the construction of a railway from the port of Mossamedes to the plateau of Chella, in the Province of Angola.

SPAIN.

Electric Lighting Material.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 30th May contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on the 5th July, simultaneously at the Directorate-General of Municipal Administration, Madrid, the "Ministerio de la Gobernacion," Madrid, and the "Casa Consistorial," Mazarron, for the public lighting of the town of Mazarron by means of electricity, for a term of twenty years, at the upset price of 9,000 pesetas (about 278*l.*) per annum, or one cent of a peseta per lamp per night. A deposit of 450 pesetas (about 14*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

The "Gaceta" of 1st June contains a notice inviting tenders which will be opened 30 days after the publication of the notice, at the offices of the Municipality, La Rambla, for the electric lighting of that town, for a term of twenty years. Twelve hundred lamps will be required. The annual payment to the concessionnaire will be 4,500 pesetas (about 139*l.*). A deposit of 225 pesetas (about 7*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

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Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

The "Gaceta" of 3rd June contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 3rd July, at the offices of the Municipality, Fregenal, for the electric lighting of that town for a term of ten years, at the upset price of 7,500 pesetas (about 225*l.*), 2,000 lamps being required. A deposit of 375 pesetas (about 11*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

The full conditions relating to these contracts are set forth in the "Gacetas."

Building Construction.

The "Gaceta" of 3rd June contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 19th June, at the offices of the Municipality, Pamplona, for the construction of a market and abattoirs at the upset price of 338,660 pesetas (about 10,188*l.*), in accordance with specifications on view at the above-mentioned offices. A deposit of 10,159 pesetas (about 305*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

Dredgers: Steam Barges.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 4th June contains a notice inviting tenders which will be opened 90 days after the publication of the notice, at the offices of the Port Works Board, Cadiz, for the supply of (1) a rotary dredger, (2) a suction dredger, and (3) two steam barges. Tenders may be made for all or any of these lots. A deposit of 5 per cent. of the amount of the tender is required. Conditions of contract, &c., may be inspected at the above-mentioned offices.

The "Gacetas" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

N.B.—It is notified from H.M. Embassy at Madrid that a foreigner, when entering into contracts for the performance of public works in Spain, must renounce by public act all rights to which he might be entitled by virtue of the law of his own country in so far as his contract is concerned, and accept any administrative decisions that may be issued respecting questions arising from that contract.

In entering into such contracts a local agent is a practical necessity.

ITALY.

Hydro-Electric Plant.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) of 28th May, notifies an application made by Messrs. Brioschi, Finzi and Company, of Milan, for an appropriation of 700 litres of water per second from the Sermenza waterfall, District of Rimasco, for the production of

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Openings for British Trade.

power for traction and other industrial purposes, and for electric lighting. The cost of the hydraulic plant and generating machinery is estimated at 1,600,000 lire (about 64,000*l.*), and of the erection of the lines at 1,470,000 lire (about 58,800*l.*).

The "Bollettino" further states that the following concessions have been granted:—1. By the Prefect of Como to Signor Francesco Valerio for an appropriation of 11 litres per second from the Valle di Villa waterfall, Lezzeno, for electric lighting; 2. By the Prefect of Turin to Signor Nouchy Fedele for an appropriation of water for industrial purposes from the Santo Barthelemy waterfall, district of Nus.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Bituminous Coal; Paving Bricks.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, copies of notices issued from the office of the Purchasing Agent at Washington for the Isthmian Canal Commission, calling for tenders for the supply of (1) 50 tons of bituminous coal, and (2) 3,000,000 paving bricks. Sealed tenders in triplicate, addressed to the Purchasing Agent, Isthmian Canal Commission, Washington, D.C., will be received up to 10.30 a.m. on the 20th June for (1), and the 24th June for (2).

Specifications and full information may be obtained from the Purchasing Agent at Washington. A copy of the specifications may be examined at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

List of Articles Needed by Isthmian Canal Commission.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch have received from the British Commercial Agent at New York (Mr. E. Seymour Bell) a copy of the "United States Government Advertiser," which contains a list of articles, for which calls for tenders are expected soon, including supplies for the electric, maritime quarantine, hospital, engineering and other services in connection with the Isthmian Canal Commission.

This list may be examined at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Blank Specification for Isthmian Canal Contracts.

With reference to the foregoing notices, it may be of interest to note that the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from H.M. Consul at Philadelphia (Mr. W. Powell) copy of the general conditions embodied in the tender forms issued by the Isthmian Canal Commission.

These conditions may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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Openings for British Trade.

MEXICO.

Hydro-electric Plant.

The Mexican "Diario Oficial" of 13th May publishes a notice authorising Señor Carlos F. Ayala, the representative of Señor G. A. Lilliendahl, to appropriate, for the production of motive power, 8,000 litres per second from the river Pilón, Municipality of Rayón, State of Nuevo Léon. Machinery, &c., required for these works may be imported free of duty.

BRAZIL.

Railway Plant.

The "Diario Official" of Brazil of 13th May contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 30th June at the Directorate General of Works and Ways of Communication, Rio de Janeiro, for the construction of a railway from Santo Antonio, on the River Madeira, to Guajará Mirim, on the River Mamoré, together with a branch line passing through Villa Murtinho, or some neighbouring point, in the State of Matto Grosso, and terminating at Villa Bella, situated at the junction of the Beni and the Mamoré. A deposit of 20,000 milreis (about 2,250*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

SANTO DOMINGO.

Opportunities for British Enterprise.

The British Vice-Consul at Santo Domingo (Mr. H. H. Gosling) reports that lands suitable for fruit growing, cocoa, sugar, coffee or tobacco are very cheap in that Republic; they may be bought for from 1 to 2 dol. per acre. The mineral deposits are very rich but have never been very thoroughly worked. The new mining laws are favourable to investors. Deposits of copper, gold, iron, coal, asbestos and phosphate have been recently discovered. Ways of communication are, however, bad; and there is an opening for the building of a railway connecting the southern ports with the interior, where there are valuable forests of hard woods and pine.

Other enterprises which would undoubtedly pay would be the construction of an aqueduct and waterworks to supply the city of Santo Domingo with water; an electric tramway in the same city; and the establishment of wireless telegraphy locally and in connection with the new stations in Porto Rico and other neighbouring islands. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series,* 3,385.)

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Openings for British Trade.

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITIONS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

International Electric Tramway and Railway Exhibition.

The Board of Trade have received a prospectus of the "Third International Electric Tramway and Railway Exhibition" to be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London, from 3rd July to 14th July next, which gives the names of more than 100 firms who have secured space.

ITALY.

International Exhibition of Agricultural Machinery and Spirit Motors.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by the Italian Chamber of Commerce in London that an International Exhibition of Agricultural Machinery and Spirit Motors will be held at Cuneo from August to October next, under the patronage of H.M. the King of Italy.

Special prizes are to be given in this exhibition. The Italian Government have granted the temporary introduction, free of duty, of goods destined for the exhibition; and facilities have also been arranged by the Italian railways.

Full particulars may be obtained on application to the Italian Chamber of Commerce in London, 4, St. Mary Axe, E.C.

COMMERCIAL MISSION TO AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND.

Mr. R. J. Jeffray, who has been appointed to visit Australia and New Zealand on behalf of the Commercial Intelligence Committee of the Board of Trade, (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 16th March, p. 496) in order to enquire and report as to the condition and prospects of British Trade with those Colonies, left England in pursuance of his mission on the 1st June.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

AGENTS IN THE COLONIES.

With reference to the notice on p. 496 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 16th March last, the Board of Trade have been notified that the following officers have been charged with the duty of receiving and answering commercial enquiries which may be addressed to them either by the Commercial Intelligence Branch or by merchants and others who may seek advice:—

Labuan	The Magistrate in Charge, Government Offices, Labuan.
Transvaal	Mr. J. W. Honey, Director of Customs, Johannesburg, *vice* The Hon. R. H. Brand.

BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Patras.—H.M. Consul at Patras (Mr. F. B. Wood) reports that the depression in trade caused by the poor results of most crops in his Consular district in 1904 has naturally brought a considerable diminution in the amount of imports, but this is shared equally by all countries dealing with Greece, and British goods of certain descriptions continue to have a strong hold upon these markets.

In view of the above situation, and the financial position of most classes of the community, it is, says Mr. Wood, necessary for merchants trading with the Patras district to exercise great caution in their transactions, especially in the matter of credit allowed, and for the present, at any rate, any expansion or pushing new lines of trade is to be deprecated. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,369.)

FOREIGN TRADE OF THE UNITED KINGDOM IN MAY, 1905.*

I.—GENERAL.

The trade returns for May, 1905, when compared with those for the corresponding month of 1904, show increases in the value of the **Imports** into the United Kingdom, in the value of the **Exports** of British produce, and in the value of the **Exports** of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

The value of the **Imports** in May, 1905, was 46,832,967*l.*, an increase of 2,052,869*l.*, or 4·5 per cent., as compared with May, 1904, whilst the total **Exports** amounted to 34,058,126*l.*, or an increase of 4,140,351*l.* The **Exports** of British produce alone show an increase of 2,920,604*l.*, or 12·0 per cent., as compared with May, 1904, whilst there is an increase of 1,219,747*l.*, or 21·8 per cent., in the **Exports** of foreign and Colonial merchandise.

II.—IMPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** for May, 1905, as compared with the corresponding months of 1904 and 1903, according to the different categories of merchandise:—

* Reference should be made to the article on "Changes in the Monthly Trade Accounts for 1905," published at pp. 444-6 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 9th March, for information as to the changes which have been made in these accounts.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in May, 1905.

Imports from Foreign Countries and British Possessions.*

—	Month ended 31st May. 1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	5,299,510	5,601,336	5,712,141	+ 110,805	+ 412,631
B. Meat, including animals for food.	4,107,065	3,745,135	4,174,979	+ 429,844	+ 67,914
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable	4,950,529	5,133,492	5,249,421	+ 115,929	+ 298,892
2. Dutiable	3,412,456	3,633,494	3,667,645	+ 34,151	+ 255,189
D. Tobacco	262,546	258,645	281,908	+ 23,263	+ 19,362
Total, Class I. ... £	18,032,106	18,372,102	19,086,094	+ 713,992	+ 1,053,988
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel ...	4	260	4,543	+ 4,283	+ 4,539
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel ...	415,912	457,483	520,588	+ 63,105	+ 104,676
C. Other metallic ores...	506,919	636,600	684,053	+ 47,453	+ 177,134
D. Wood and timber	1,872,744	1,785,344	1,639,975	— 145,369	— 232,769
E. Cotton	2,132,200	3,909,805	4,479,822	+ 570,017	+ 2,347,622
F. Wool	2,133,011	1,839,407	1,432,766	— 406,641	— 700,245
G. Other textile materials	865,848	1,001,467	1,237,053	+ 235,586	+ 371,205
H. Oil seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums...	2,051,332	2,276,739	2,048,641	— 228,098	— 2,691
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	652,572	560,172	643,171	+ 82,999	— 9,401
J. Materials for paper making ...	328,505	370,349	371,910	+ 1,561	+ 43,405
K. Miscellaneous	1,460,082	1,723,708	1,793,605	+ 69,897	+ 333,523
Total, Class II. ... £	12,419,129	14,561,334	14,856,127	+ 294,793	+ 2,436,998
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	675,958	733,565	731,823	— 1,742	+ 55,865
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	1,441,421	1,509,322	1,972,030	+ 462,708	— 530,609
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	414,784	339,850	321,460	— 18,390	— 93,324
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus	979	4,286	5,586	+ 1,300	+ 4,607
E. Machinery	435,928	414,205	449,806	+ 35,601	+ 13,878
F. Ships (new)	651	2,454	1,821	— 633	+ 1,170
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	219,399	201,718	200,505	— 1,213	— 18,894
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton	599,663	500,809	634,567	+ 133,758	+ 34,904
2. Wool	860,023	928,590	1,089,925	+ 161,335	+ 229,902
3. Other materials	1,567,393	1,750,422	1,811,394	+ 60,972	+ 244,001
I. Apparel	331,705	343,529	367,395	+ 23,866	+ 35,690
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	788,772	902,190	918,676	+ 16,486	+ 129,904
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves)	944 818	1,071,209	875,047	— 196,162	— 69,771
L. Earthenware and glass	372,473	377,460	362,296	— 15,164	— 10,177
M. Paper...	398,855	419,997	443,884	+ 23,887	+ 45,029
N. Miscellaneous	2,171,910	2,180,901	2,525,598	+ 344,697	+ 353,688
Total, Class III. ... £	11,224,732	11,680,507	12,711,813	+ 1,031,306	+ 1,487,081
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	239,139	166,155	178,933	+ 12,778	— 60,206
Total value of Imports £	41,915,106	44,780,098	46,832,967	+ 2,052,869	+ 4,917,861

*The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance, and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

Comparing the values of the imports of articles last month with those of May, 1904, the chief increases and decreases are as shown in the following statement:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in May, 1905.

Increases.

			£
I.	A.	Oats	183,727
		Maize	167,311
	B.	Beef, fresh	86,722
		Mutton, fresh ...	175,737
		Bacon	105,766
	C1.	Butter	141,991
		Eggs	63,717
	C2.	Sugar, unrefined...	187,967
		Brandy	53,960
II.	B.	Iron ore	57,739
	E.	Cotton, raw... ...	590,517
	G.	Jute	121,486
	I.	Sheep skins... ...	70,964
	K.	Caoutchouc... ...	178,484

			£
III.	B.	Copper, regulus & precipitate ...	107,707
		Copper, unwrought & part wrought.	60,422
		Tin	255,223
	H1.	Cotton yarns and fabrics	133,758
	H2.	Woollen yarn for weaving	58,358
		Woollen stuffs ...	98,207
	J.	Drugs & medicines	98,795
	N.	Motor cars and parts thereof ...	152,464

Decreases.

			£
I.	A.	Barley...	140,839
	C1.	Oranges	101,299
		Potatoes	65,080
	C2.	Coffee	216,224
		Sugar refined and sugar candy ...	71,611
		Tea	52,325
II.	D.	Wood and timber, hewn	58,555
		Wood and timber, sawn or split ...	62,437

			£
II.–*ctd.*	F.	Sheep or lambs' wool...	348,215
		Mohair...	54,051
	H.	Seeds: Flax or linseed	97,239
		Tallow & stearine	57,512
	K.	Nitrate of soda ...	111,939
III.	K.	Leather	212,722

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versâ*, may be noted, viz. :—

			Increase.	Decrease.
I.	A.	Wheat	£15,250 ...	360,500 cwts.
	B.	Cattle	1,168 No. ...	£23,730
		Sheep and lambs	142 „ ...	£1,081
		Beef, salted	£2,988 ...	708 cwts.
	C1.	Butter	£141,991 ...	3,719 „
		Fish, cured or salted	22,419 cwts....	£4,699
		Apples, raw	4,605 „ ...	£7,543
		Hops	£6,790 ...	230 cwts.
	C2.	Cocoa, raw	97,272 lbs. ...	£5,027
		„ prepared	10,139 „ ...	£9,162
		Sugar, unrefined...	£187,967 ...	52,145 cwts.
II.	F.	Camels' hair	£2,822 ...	82,641 lbs.
	H.	Petroleum	2,024,531 galls...	£41,367
	I.	Hides, raw, dry	£9,182 ...	749 cwts.
	J.	Wood pulp, chemical, dry ...	£1,370 ...	1,627 tons.
	K.	Gutta percha	810 cwts....	£17,955
III.	B.	Zinc, crude, in cakes	£4,405 ...	403 tons.
	E.	Machinery—steam engines ...	61 tons ...	£2,238
		„ not steam engines or electrical ...	£44,249 ...	279 tons.
		„ electrical	50 tons ...	£6,410
	J.	Coal tar dyes—aniline	813 cwts....	£1,430
	L.	Chinaware or porcelain and earthenware	4,720 „ ...	£1,384
	N.	Brooms and Brushes	£1,175 ...	2,772 dozens.

III.—EXPORTS.

The following table shows the value of the **Exports** of British produce for the month of May, 1905, as compared with the corresponding month of 1904 and 1903, and the increase or decrease in each principal category :—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in May, 1905.

Exports of British Produce.*

—	Month ended 31st May. 1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	144,336	135,124	258,276	+ 123,152	+ 113,940
B. Meat, including animals for food	54,183	55,091	70,101	+ 15,010	+ 15,918
C. Other food and drink	864,305	885,668	996,675	+ 111,007	+ 132,370
D. Tobacco	56,632	57,138	87,217	+ 30,079	+ 30,585
Total, Class I. ... £	1,119,456	1,133,021	1,412,269	+ 279,248	+ 292,813
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke and patent fuel ...	2,602,304	2,366,303	2,365,337	— 966	— 236,967
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel ...	64,942	43,444	49,905	+ 6,461	— 15,037
C. Other metallic ores...	19,755	13,549	15,509	+ 1,960	— 4,246
D. Wood and timber	4,736	4,723	6,563	+ 1,840	+ 1,827
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	77,845	86,548	145,692	+ 59,144	+ 67,847
G. Other textile materials	11,807	23,202	11,041	— 12,161	— 766
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats and gums...	302,377	265,834	252,987	— 12,847	— 49,390
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	84,753	131,926	143,682	+ 11,756	+ 58,929
J. Materials for paper making ...	36,632	35,392	56,059	+ 20,667	+ 19,427
K. Miscellaneous	140,524	136,007	154,903	+ 18,896	+ 14,379
Total, Class II. ... £	3,345,675	3,106,928	3,201,678	+ 94,750	— 143,997
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	2,863,713	2,517,291	2,859,222	+ 341,931	— 4,491
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	595,078	576,213	729,550	+ 153,337	+ 134,472
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	390,402	413,674	431,749	+ 18,075	+ 41,347
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus..	100,392	171,760	72,853	— 98,907	— 27,539
E. Machinery	1,650,922	1,867,103	2,157,035	+ 289,932	+ 506,113
F. Ships (new)	517,172	727,515	374,387	— 353,128	— 142,785
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	115,087	109,779	97,379	— 12,400	— 17,708
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton...	5,937,568	6,161,836	7,316,453	+ 1,154,617	+ 1,378,885
2. Wool	1,886,061	1,969,131	2,169,458	+ 200,327	+ 283,397
3. Other materials	951,460	923,338	1,060,892	+ 137,554	+ 109,432
I. Apparel	532,018	358,679	385,574	+ 26,895	— 146,444
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	1,257,255	1,229,174	1,330,157	+ 100,983	+ 72,902
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes, and gloves)	399,183	362,883	422,486	+ 59,603	+ 23,303
L. Earthenware and glass	274,715	266,287	286,970	+ 20,683	+ 12,255
M. Paper...	163,295	166,506	174,673	+ 8,167	+ 11,378
N. Miscellaneous	1,873,883	1,904,479	2,346,313	+ 441,834	+ 472,430
Total, Class III. ... £	19,508,204	19,725,648	22,215,151	— 2,489,503	+ 2,706,947
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	353,691	366,492	423,595	+ 57,103	+ 69,904
Total value of Exports of British produce ... £	24,327,026	24,332,089	27,252,693	+ 2,920,604	+ 2,925,667

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.

	£	£	£	£	£
Total value...	5,943,553	5,585,686	6,805,433	+ 1,219,747	+ 861,880

* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship, and are known as the "free on board" values.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in May, 1905.

Comparing the values of the exports of the principal articles of British produce and manufacture in May, 1905, with those of May, 1904, the chief increases and decreases are as follow:—

Increases.

			£
I.	A.	Bran and pollard	79,615
II.	F.	Wool, sheep or lambs'	59,144
III.	A.	Iron and steel and manufactures thereof ...	341,931
	E.	Machinery—Steam engines	107,216
		" Not steam engines or electrical ...	151,687
	H1.	Cotton yarn...	171,143
		" piece goods...	955,513
	H2.	Wool tops	55,160
		Woollen tissues	136,655
	H3.	Linen piece-goods	75,272
	J.	Manure, chemical	62,988
	N.	Arms, ammunition, and military stores ...	157,423

Decreases.

			£
III.	D.	Telegraph cables and apparatus	98,907
	F.	Ships, new	353,128
	J.	Sulphate of copper	50,220

The following instances of increase in value combined with decrease in quantity, or *vice versâ*, may be noted, viz.:—

			Increase.	Decrease.
I.	C.	Sugar, refined and candy ...	£7,222...	... 8,252 cwts.
II.	I.	Skins and furs, undressed ...	£1,862...	... 1,997 No.
III.	H2	Wool blankets	£1,312...	... 7,713 pairs.
	H3	Jute yarn...	£1,067...	... 645,300 lbs.
		" piece-goods ... —	£17,542...	... 956,300 yds.
	J.	Coal products, not dyes... ...	121,526 cwts.	... £3,727.
		Soda compounds...	£10,251...	... 3,329 cwts.

IV.—TRADE DURING THE FIRST FIVE MONTHS OF 1905.

The following table shows the value of the **Imports** from foreign countries and British possessions during the five months ended 31st May last, as compared with the corresponding periods of the two previous years:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in May, 1905.

Imports from Foreign Countries and British Possessions.*

—	Five Months ended 31st May. 1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	24,666,961	27,713,756	27,653,509	− 60,247	+ 2,986,548
B. Meat, including animals for food	20,197,421	19,819,892	20,154,213	+ 334,321	− 43,208
C. Other food and drink—					
1. Non-dutiable...	23,685,824	25,607,472	24,089,901	− 1,517,571	+ 404,077
2. Dutiable	16,803,498	17,784,784	18,459,714	+ 674,930	+ 1,656,216
D. Tobacco	1,623,102	1,730,715	1,537,292	− 193,423	− 85,810
Total, Class I. ... £	86,976,806	92,656,619	91,894,629	− 761,990	+ 4,917,823
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke and patent fuel ...	1,981	1,500	7,036	+ 5,536	+ 5,055
B. Iron ore, scrap iron and steel ...	2,106,232	1,917,310	2,212,564	+ 295,254	+ 106,332
C. Other metallic ores...	2,452,252	2,996,126	3,130,519	+ 134,393	+ 678,267
D. Wood and timber	6,086,779	5,925,221	5,280,875	− 644,346	− 805,904
E. Cotton	21,752,478	23,845,220	21,379,184	− 2,466,036	− 373,294
F. Wool	13,397,542	12,744,445	15,282,832	+ 2,538,387	+ 1,885,290
G. Other textile materials	5,323,869	6,714,911	6,642,074	− 72,837	+ 1,318,205
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums	10,069,977	11,104,387	9,435,266	− 1,669,121	− 634,711
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	3,189,596	2,755,377	3,066,384	+ 311,007	− 123,212
J. Materials for paper making ...	1,294,220	1,296,154	1,396,910	+ 100,756	+ 102,690
K. Miscellaneous	8,632,111	9,079,444	9,613,619	+ 534,175	+ 981,508
Total Class II. ... £	74,307,037	78,380,095	77,447,263	− 932,832	+ 3,140,226
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	3,352,431	3,386,838	3,388,136	+ 1,298	+ 35,705
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	7,414,614	8,176,688	8,672,787	+ 496,099	+ 1,258,173
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	1,892,318	1,708,563	1,485,546	− 223,017	− 406,772
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus..	26,618	14,813	29,121	+ 14,308	+ 2,503
E. Machinery	1,971,769	1,889,369	2,071,260	+ 181,891	+ 99,491
F. Ships (new)	15,461	8,024	6,517	− 1,507	− 8,944
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	977,501	904,689	817,265	− 87,424	− 160,236
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton...	3,411,374	2,813,996	3,232,993	+ 418,997	− 178,381
2. Wool	4,994,724	4,824,005	5,437,154	+ 613,149	+ 442,430
3. Other materials	8,790,100	8,551,641	8,756,282	+ 204,651	− 33,818
I. Apparel	1,197,477	1,455,799	1,619,094	+ 163,295	+ 421,617
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	3,841,618	4,011,578	4,159,780	+ 148,202	+ 318,162
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes, and gloves)	4,924,464	4,790,808	4,293,427	− 497,381	− 631,037
L. Earthenware and glass	1,886,305	1,825,960	1,670,881	− 155,079	− 215,424
M. Paper	1,998,896	2,036,513	2,060,134	+ 23,621	+ 61,238
N. Miscellaneous	10,275,645	10,374,358	11,569,782	+ 1,195,424	+ 1,294,137
Total, Class III. ... £	56,971,315	56,773,642	59,270,159	+ 2,496,517	+ 2,298,844
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) ...	1,005,369	964,751	983,233	+ 18,482	− 22,136
Total ... ... £	219,260,527	228,775,107	229,595,284	+ 820,177	+ 10,334,757

* The values of the Imports represent the cost, insurance and freight; or when goods are consigned for sale, the latest sale value of such goods.

The value of the **Exports** of home produce and of foreign and colonial produce during the first five months of 1905, as compared with the corresponding periods of 1904 and 1903 is as shown in the following table:—

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in May, 1905.

Exports of British Produce.*

—	Five Months ended 31st May. 1903.	1904.	1905.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1904.	Increase (+) or Decrease (−) in 1905 as compared with 1903.
	£	£	£	£	£
I.—Food, Drink, and Tobacco—					
A. Grain and flour	680,554	616,099	1,057,991	+ 411,892	+ 377,437
B. Meat, including animals for food.	234,695	256,956	280,874	+ 23,918	+ 46,179
C. Other food and drink	4,382,625	4,513,666	4,661,747	+ 148,081	+ 279,122
D. Tobacco	266,842	298,158	395,180	+ 97,022	+ 128,338
Total, Class I. ... £	5,564,716	5,714,879	6,395,792	+ 680,913	+ 831,076
II.—Raw Materials and Articles Mainly Unmanufactured—					
A. Coal, coke, and patent fuel ...	11,029,970	10,902,133	10,541,158	— 360,975	— 488,812
B. Iron ore, scrap iron, and steel ...	195,885	196,677	200,226	+ 3,549	+ 4,341
C. Other metallic ores...	55,210	61,311	51,406	— 9,905	— 3,804
D. Wood and timber	20,609	16,414	34,980	+ 18,566	+ 14,371
E. Cotton	—	—	—	—	—
F. Wool	425,290	492,736	556,404	+ 63,668	+ 131,114
G. Other textile materials	70,393	78,144	74,196	— 3,948	+ 3,803
H. Oil-seeds, nuts, oils, fats, and gums...	1,379,936	1,240,626	1,072,458	— 168,168	— 307,478
I. Hides and undressed skins ...	611,323	631,094	778,323	+ 147,229	+ 167,000
J. Materials for paper making ...	172,555	174,891	225,643	+ 50,752	+ 52,988
K. Miscellaneous	693,401	719,612	798,630	+ 79,018	+ 105,229
Total, Class II. ... £	14,654,072	14,513,638	14,333,424	— 180,214	— 320,648
III.—Articles Wholly or Mainly Manufactured—					
A. Iron and steel and manufactures thereof	12,958,631	11,563,460	12,439,277	+ 875,817	— 519,354
B. Other metals and manufactures thereof	2,800,322	2,820,204	3,154,973	+ 334,769	+ 354,651
C. Cutlery, hardware, implements and instruments	1,843,669	1,967,021	2,021,241	+ 54,220	+ 177,572
D. Telegraph cables and apparatus	1,367,133	461,025	466,793	+ 5,768	— 895,340
E. Machinery	7,660,478	8,386,975	9,099,143	+ 712,168	+ 1,438,665
F. Ships (new)	1,798,068	1,804,798	1,557,258	— 247,540	— 240,810
G. Manufactures of wood and timber (including furniture) ...	625,257	519,369	465,402	— 53,967	— 159,855
H. Yarns and textile fabrics—					
1. Cotton...	31,350,419	33,018,689	37,135,715	+ 4,117,026	+ 5,785,296
2. Wool	10,214,702	10,717,239	12,251,630	+ 1,534,391	+ 2,036,928
3. Other materials	5,027,998	5,118,976	5,207,422	+ 88,446	+ 179,424
I. Apparel	3,308,860	2,350,705	2,280,620	— 70,085	— 1,028,240
J. Chemicals, drugs, dyes and colours	6,178,433	6,309,776	6,533,590	+ 223,814	+ 355,157
K. Leather and manufactures thereof (including boots and shoes and gloves)	2,108,695	1,814,904	2,129,506	+ 314,602	+ 20,811
L. Earthenware and glass	1,331,338	1,272,310	1,281,897	+ 9,587	— 49,441
M. Paper...	743,164	792,357	803,669	+ 11,312	+ 60,505
N. Miscellaneous	9,110,490	9,354,519	10,312,147	+ 957,628	+ 1,201,657
Total, Class III. ... £	98,422,657	98,272,327	107,140,283	+ 8,867,956	+ 8,717,626
IV.—Miscellaneous and Unclassified (including Parcel Post) £	1,609,220	1,546,053	1,851,325	+ 305,272	+ 242,105
Total value... ... £	120,250,665	120,046,897	129,720,824	+ 9,673,927	+ 9,470,159

Exports of Foreign and Colonial Produce.

	£	£	£	£	£
Total value	30,197,016	31,404,046	33,655,129	+ 2,251,083	+ 3,458,113

* The values of the Exports represent the cost and the charges of delivering the goods on board the ship and are known as the "free on board" values.

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Foreign Trade of the United Kingdom in May, 1905.

V.—SHIPPING IN MAY, 1905.

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the month ended 31st May, 1905, amounted to 3,479,062 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 4,459,318 tons, as against 3,507,585 tons entered and 4,117,267 tons cleared in the month of May, 1904. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during May, 1905, amounted to 2,854,749 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 2,797,049 tons, as against 2,724,105 tons entered, and 2,674,443 tons cleared in May, 1904.

VI.—FIVE MONTHS' SHIPPING (JANUARY-MAY).

The tonnage of vessels entered at ports in the United Kingdom from foreign countries and British possessions, with cargoes, during the five months ended 31st May, 1905, amounted to 15,239,927 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 19,804,706 tons, as against 15,619,452 tons entered and 19,363,699 tons cleared during the corresponding period of 1904. With regard to the coasting trade, the tonnage entered with cargoes during the first five months of 1905 amounted to 13,320,969 tons, and the tonnage cleared to 13,078,569 tons, as against 13,152,205 tons entered and 12,904,931 tons cleared during the corresponding period of 1904.

TRADE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

The following summary table has been prepared in the Board of Trade, showing the total imports and exports of merchandise of the principal countries for which the particulars can be given up to February, 1905, inclusive, and referring in all cases to the same period, viz., the two months ended February. The corresponding figures for 1904 and 1903 are added for comparison :—

—	Imports (*see* Note that follows table). Two Months ended February.			Exports (Domestic) (*see* Note that follows table). Two Months ended February.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Belgium*	15,158,000	17,012,000	16,815,000	11,168,000	11,381,000	12,517,000
France...	32,475,000	32,361,000	32,291,000	27,302,000	27,414,000	27,203,000
Spain*...	5,134,000	5,259,000	5,712,000	5,138,000	5,249,000	5,044,000
Italy	12,143,000	12,181,000	12,145,000	9,971,000	8,443,000	9,359,000
Austria-Hungary ...	12,512,000	13,947,000	14.239,000	12,173,000	13,056,000	11,520,000
Egypt	2,661,000	2,739,000	3,246,000	4,092,000	5,105,000	3,672,000
United States... ...	34,958,000	35,753,000	41,962,000	52,958,000	53,541,000	47,656,000
Japan	4,942,000	5,933,000	7,926,000	3,945,000	4,834,000	4,858,000
British India... ...	8,436,000	10,098,000	19,647,000	15,905,000	19,218,000	18,332,000
Canada	6,748,000	6,923,000	7,032,000	5,580,000	4,503,000	4,262,000
United Kingdom ...	74,581,000	77,126,000	76,877,000	47,679,000	47,978,000	50,259,000

* Value of *principal* articles only.

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Trade of Foreign Countries and British Possessions.

A comparison of the total figures for the three months ended 31st March is possible for four countries, as follows, viz.:—

—	Imports (*see* NOTE). Three Months ended March.			Exports (Domestic) (*see* NOTE). Three Months ended March.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Belgium*	23,657,000	26,832,000	28,221,000	18,545,000	19,031,000	20,289,000
France...	63,412,000	60,739,000	59,734,000	52,175,000	54,028,000	53,459,000
United States ...	55,006,000	54,783,000	64,975,000	79,894,000	77,956,000	75,609,000
United Kingdom ...	115,956,000	119,836,000	119,032,000	72,787,000	72,230,000	78,830,000

* Value of *principal* articles only.

NOTE.—In the case of Belgium, France, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Egypt, Japan, Canada *and United Kingdom*, the import figures given in the above summaries represent imports for home consumption only, *i.e.*, excluding re-exports. In all cases the export figures are intended to represent exports of domestic produce. In most cases, however, they include a certain amount of "nationalised" goods, *i.e.*, goods originally imported for consumption, and which, if dutiable, have been charged with duty, but which are subsequently re-exported.

The latest figures available as regards other countries from which returns are received by the Board of Trade, are as follow:—

—	Imports.			Exports (Domestic).		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Russia* (12 months)...	55,844,000	63,609,000	61,608,000	87,127,000	100,243,000	100,806,000
Germany (12 months)	281,550,000	300,134,000	314,549,000	233,889,000	250,732,000	258,625,000
Switzerland (12 mths.)	43,518,000	46,363,000	48,406,000	34,725,000	35,276,000	35,334,000
Portugal (10 months)..	10,343,000	11,244,000	11,680,000	5,412,000	5,682,000	5,848,000
Mexico† (12 months)..	14,724,000	15,220,000	16,420,000	15,532,000	17,359,000	17,461,000

* European and Black Sea Frontiers.

† The values of the imports are stated in gold, and the dollar has been converted into English currency at the rate of 4*s*. The values of the exports are stated in silver, and the dollar has been converted into English currency for the years ended 30th June. 1902, 1903, 1904, at 1*s*. 9½*d*., 1*s*. 8*d*., and 1*s*. 10*d*. respectively; 1*s*. 11*d*. has been taken for the first six months (July to December) of the year 1904–5. The figures for Mexico include bullion and specie.

For detailed particulars regarding the trade of the several countries, reference should be made to the "Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions," including figures received up to 30th April, to be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C.

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TRADE OF CAPE COLONY.

With reference to the statement on pp. 156-7 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 27th April, the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 16th May publishes statistics showing the value of the goods imported into Cape Colony during the three months ended 31st March, 1905, as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year, from which the following table has been prepared:—

Imports into Cape Colony.*

Principal and other Articles.	Three Months ended 31st March.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Provisions of all kinds (*includes butter, cheese, chicory, coffee, meats, sugar, and tea*) ...	899,000	805,000
Corn and grain, &c. (*flour, maize, oats, wheat, and rice*)	444,000	458,000
Metals and metal manufactures (*includes iron, lead, machinery, hardware, wire fencing, &c.*)	753,000	453,000
Haberdashery	410,000	385,000
Cotton manufactures	224,000	254,000
Leather and leather manufactures (*includes boots and shoes, and saddlery and harness*)...	216,000	237,000
Wearing apparel (*includes hats*)	269,000	234,000
Wood, and manufactures of (*includes furniture*)	492,000	218,000
Stationery (*includes books*)	156,000	135,000
Woollen manufactures	104,000	99,000
Alcoholic beverages (*includes wine, beer, and spirits*)	98,000	88,000
Tobacco of all sorts	53,000	64,000
Drugs and chemicals	69,000	61,000
Soap and candles...	57,000	58,000
Carts and carriages (*includes bicycles*) ...	77,000	55,000
Pipes, iron and earthen	66,000	50,000
Agricultural implements	57,000	46,000
Animals, living	84,000	43,000
Coal, coke, and patent fuel	58,000	42,000
Oil, mineral	49,000	38,000
Arms and ammunition (*includes dynamite and blasting compound and powder*) ...	40,000	37,000
Confectionery (*includes jams*)	31,000	32,000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	30,000	29,000
Bags, all sorts	12,000	28,000
Cement	24,000	26,000
Earthen manufactures	32,000	24,000
Paints, varnish and turpentine...	25,000	23,000
Oilman stores (not edible)	18,000	17,000
Linen manufactures	13,000	13,000
All other articles of merchandise	981,000	719,000
Total merchandise ... £	5,841,000	4,771,000
Articles imported for the Colonial Government	514,000	134,000
Specie	30,000	17,000
Grand total, imports ... £	6,385,000	4,922,000

NOTE.—The official figures of imports into Cape Colony are exclusive of imports by the Imperial Government, but it may be noted that supplies for the Army are still partly contracted for on the spot.

* Exclusive of imports of diamonds and gold from States outside the Colony:—3,769,000*l.* during the first three months of 1904, and 5,000,000*l.* during the same period of 1905.

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Trade of Cape Colony.

In connection with the foregoing table, it may be of interest to note that in a communication received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from their Correspondent at Cape Town (Mr. E. J. Cattell), it is stated that the trade statistics of Cape Colony for the months of March and April show a somewhat more favourable aspect, and it appears that the zero of the depression is about reached. The imports have been gradually diminishing for some 18 months, and the extent of the decrease has up till now been very great. The imports during the year 1904 showed a decrease, as compared with 1903, of 36 per cent. The first four months of 1905 show the following results :—

Imports.	1904.	1905.	Decrease Per cent.
	£	£	
January	1,916,839	1,601,868	16·4
February	1,795,986	1,386,234	22·8
March	2,127,584	1,782,891	16·2
April...	1,539,439	1,443,629	6·2

The earnings of the railways have of late shown a better result also.

EXAMINATION AND CERTIFICATION OF BRITISH PASSENGER STEAMERS IN UNITED STATES PORTS.

The Board of Trade have recently made representations to the Government of the United States, through the Foreign Office, with a view to obtaining the recognition by the United States authorities of passenger certificates issued in the United Kingdom and they have now received, through the Foreign Office, copy of a circular which has been issued by the United States Department of Commerce and Labour, the full text of which may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

The Circular provides that the merchant passenger steamers of Great Britain, sailing from ports in the United States, and holding unexpired certificates of inspection issued by the duly constituted officers of Great Britain, shall be subject to no other inspection than is necessary to satisfy the local inspectors that the condition of the vessel, her boilers, and life-saving equipments are as stated in the said current British certificate of inspection.

The masters, owners, or agents of British merchant passenger steamers, other than steamers holding certificates of inspection issued by the authorities of the United States, shall, immediately upon arriving at ports in the United States, file in the office of the local inspectors of steamboats having jurisdiction in such ports, a copy of their current British certificate of inspection.

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Examination and Certification of British Passenger Steamers in United States Ports.

Masters, owners, or agents of British merchant passenger steamers holding an unexpired United States certificate of inspection, shall also furnish the local inspectors with a copy of their current British certificate of inspection upon arrival at a United States port on their last voyage preceding the date of expiration of the current United States certificate held by such steamer, and it shall thereafter be examined and certificated in the manner provided.

Similar recognition is granted in Great Britain to the certificates issued by the Authorities of the United States to American steamers.

SERICULTURE IN ITALY, CHINA AND JAPAN.

In response to interrogatories submitted to the Department of Commerce and Labour of the United States of America, by the Silk Association of America, the Consular officers of the United States in Italy, China and Japan were instructed to make the necessary investigations into sericulture as conducted in those countries, and to report the results to the Department.

These reports, which have now been published by the Department in the Advance Sheets of Consular Reports, and cover the raising of the cocoons, reeling, spinning and silk manufacture in the countries named, together with notes on conditions of employment in the various branches, may be seen by persons interested at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

In regard to **China** the Consul at Hangchow says there seems to be no question that if the methods obtaining in that country for many centuries are to be retained, the silk production of the nation will decline, while, on the other hand, the adoption of modern methods of handling the cocoons and disposing of the product of the worm will result in an immense development of the silk business in China. So long as the greater portion of Chinese silk production comes from reeling machines and looms of rough, rude, and apparently inefficient sorts it is hardly to be expected that it will amount to much in competition with the Western product.

The Consul was surprised at the crudeness of the machines used in the college at Hangchow—machines which may reasonably be taken as representing the best methods employed in the production of most of the silk in China. Apparently there is, in his opinion, no reason why more modern machinery could not be introduced, except that its advent would bring serious resistance on the part of the silk workers.

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Forthcoming Reduction of Tea Duty—Facilities for Removal of Tea from Bonded Warehouses, &c.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 255 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 11th May last respecting the reduction of the duty on tea from the 1st July, 1905, the Board of Trade are now in receipt of a General Order (No. 40/1905) of the Commissioners of Customs, calling attention to the arrangements which have been made for the removal of tea from bonded warehouses prior to 1st July and for its clearance for duty on or after that date. As a special concession the Customs will allow tea on which the reduced duty is to be paid to be produced for examination at *quays, wharves, railway stations,* or *public depôts,* instead of at bonded warehouses, as is usually required in the case of goods delivered from warehouse under removal warrant. It must, however, be understood that, unless tea delivered from a bonded warehouse before the 1st July is produced to an officer of Customs or Excise at the place of destination on or after that date, such tea will not be entitled to the benefit of the reduced duty.

The full text of the General Order may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Customs Amendment Act.

A copy of the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" for 9th May last has been received which contains the Customs Amendment Act, 1905 (No. 5 of 1905), amending the Customs Act 10 of 1872, and also providing for the better protection of the Customs revenue of the Colony.

The present Act, which was assented to on 5th May, 1905, authorises the Government, subject to the vote of Parliament, to refund to the Imperial Government the amount of any duty that may have been, or may be, paid on any imported materials which have been actually used in the construction (under contract with the Imperial Government) of any docks, military or naval defence works, and other similar public works within the Colony or the territorial limits thereof.

It is further provided in the Act that notwithstanding the provisions of Section 36 of Act 10 of 1872, the Controller, or other principal officer of Customs, is empowered to permit, under such rules and regulations as he may direct, the keys of all bonded warehouses to be kept in the possession of the proprietor or occupier of such bonded warehouses, and allow the receipt into and delivery therefrom of goods without the presence of a Customs

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE—*continued.*

officer. Section 39 of the Act of 1872, which provides for the forfeiture of goods entered to be warehoused if removed without permission, is amended by providing in such cases that "the proprietor or occupier of the bonded warehouse shall forfeit a sum not exceeding treble the value of the goods, or a penalty not exceeding 100*l.* at the election of the principal officer of Customs, subject to the approval of the Governor."

Provision is also made that persons carrying on any business in the Colony must keep reasonable and proper books or assets of their transactions, and must also be prepared to produce all bills of lading, invoices, and all other documents containing all particulars regarding imported and sold goods, so that they may at all times be open for inspection by the Controller of Customs or his deputies for a period of 12 months after the date of importation, and that the same may be attached by him if necessary. In default, the person or persons concerned shall be liable to a fine not exceeding 100*l.*, or be imprisoned, with or without hard labour, for any period not exceeding one year.

It is further laid down by Section 4 of the present Act that any person who imports, attempts to import or assists in importing goods illegally, or without the payment of duty thereon, shall be guilty of an offence; and shall, in addition to any penalties already provided by Customs Law, be liable on conviction to a fine not exceeding 25*l.*, or, in default of payment, to imprisonment, with or without hard labour, for any period not exceeding three months; and in the case of a second or subsequent conviction within the space of two years, the person convicted shall be liable to a fine not exceeding 100*l.*, or to be imprisoned for a period not exceeding one year, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

The Resident Magistrate of the district in which such offences are committed is empowered to impose the penalties named.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

Increased Duty on Spirits.

A copy of the "British Central Africa Gazette" for 31st March last, has been received, containing the "British Central Africa Liquor (Amending) Ordinance, 1905" (No. 3 of 1905), which was enacted by the Commissioner for that Protectorate on the same day.

The above Ordinance provides that from the date named the duty payable under Section 7 of the Liquor Ordinance No. 6 of 1904 on all distilled liquors imported for sale, consumption, or use, in the Protectorate, shall be increased from 12*s.* to 15*s.* per proof gallon, as ascertained by Syke's hydrometer, and so in proportion for any greater or less degree of strength, or any greater or less quantity.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

ST. LUCIA.

Free Importation of Surgical Instruments.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of an Order in Council, which received the approval of the Legislative Council of St. Lucia on 10th May last, and which provides for the free importation into the Colony of St. Lucia of "surgical instruments," under the provisions of Section 4 of the Customs Tariff Ordinance, 1895, Amendment Ordinance, 1903.

NORWAY.

Tariff Modifications (*continued from p.* 412 *of last week's "Journal"*).

[Krona = 1*s.* 1½*d.* Kilog. = 2·2046 lbs.]

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
			Kron.	Kron.
363 and 364	Machines, motors, and apparatus for industrial or other technical purposes, for ships' use, or for agriculture, not mentioned elsewhere, together with finished parts of the same	*ad val.*	5 %* / Free†	10 %
	NOTE. — Machinery manufactured of sheet iron 3 mm. or more in thickness ...		Free	Free
	Machine belting and check braces of all kinds, and sewing-machine belts	Kilog.	Free	0·30
	Manufactures of metals—			
	A. Of various metals—			
367	Fish hooks with artificial flies‡	"	5·00	15·00
369	Jewellery of common metals, combined or not with other materials, such as necklaces, bracelets, brooches, breast-pins, cuff-links, rings, chains, crosses, &c., &c.: Gilt, including *doublé* wares of all kinds, together with all manufactures in imitation of filigree and enamel work	"	2·50	10·00
	Wire-drawers' work of gold, silver, or platinum, real or imitation—			
376	Cords, galloons, laces, fringes, and the like ...	"	7·50	10·00
377	Thread of gold, silver, or platinum for embroidery; also spangles, bullion, and tinsel ...	"	2·00	2·50
381	Tools and implements not elsewhere mentioned, and parts thereof	—	Free	10 % *ad val.*

* Motors of all kinds, dynamos and transformers, so far as not manufactured of sheet iron 3 mm. or more in thickness; and parts thereof.

† Other machinery for industrial, nautical or agricultural purposes, and parts of such machines.

‡ Including weight of cartons and immediate packing.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
	Manufactures of metals—*cont.*		Kron.	Kron.
	Printing type—			
382	Common type and blanks; also type for headings, and job-printing type ...	Kilog.	0·10	0 15
*ex*383	Blocks of all kinds, engraved or etched plates, engravings on wood and the like; also stereotype plates and paper matrices	—	Free	10 % *ad val.*
	B. Of gold, silver, platinum—			
389	Chased work of gold and platinum	Kilog.	15·00	30·00
	Silver [and silver gilt (including also wares of real enamel with gilt setting of common metal)*]—			
392	Filigree or enamel ...	"	15·00	60·00
[390]	Chased work	"	5·00	15·00
	C. Iron—			
396	Springs for carriages and buffers	"	Free	0·10
401	Nails and wire tacks, tenter and other hooks, 45 mm. and more in length; also horseshoe and other nails...	"	0·03	0·05
	NOTE.—Nails and wire tacks of iron in combination with other metals are dutiable under this heading.			
402	Bolts with or without nuts, screws other than wood screws, rivets, buckles, nuts, rivetting plates, washers coated or not with copper, tin or zinc— 13 mm. or less in diameter	"	0·02	0·05
405	Fireproof safes and chests, together with vault doors and boxes for fireproof vaults	"	0·05	0·10
410	Baths, frames and roofing for buildings, bridgework, doors, fountains, casks, coffers, sepulchral monuments, sinks (cast-iron) and soak-aways, mangles, mangers, pan lids, mills of all kinds not separately mentioned, for manual, horse, or machine power; weights, lamp-posts, and posts for electric lamps and wires; milk pans of a capacity of 20 litres or more, mortars, Venetian blinds, urinals, slabs (cast-iron), gates, retorts, gratings, registers, gutters, staircases, barrels, wringers	"	0·02	0·03

* Words in square brackets added in New Tariff.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
	Manufactures of metals—*cont.*		Kron.	Kron.
	Iron manufactures not separately mentioned—			
423	Bronzed, tinned, coppered, enamelled, varnished, glazed, lacquered, or painted ...	Kilog.	0·25	0·35
427	D. Lead manufactures not separately mentioned—			
	Gilt or silvered	"	0·15	1·00
	Nickelled	"		0·70
	Lacquered, painted, or with external coating other than the above-mentioned	"		0·50
	Other	"		0·15
	E. Tin manufactures other than rolls, bars, plates, wire, filings, and pipes—			
*ex*430	Nickelled	"	1·50	1·00
	F. Zinc manufactures other than plates, bolts, bars, pipes, nails, and wire—			
*ex*435	Nickelled	"	1·25	0·80
436	Lacquered, painted, or covered with any material not specially mentioned in the tariff	"	0·35	0·50
437	Castings weighing more than 25 kilogs. each, without regard to the outside coating	"	0·10	0·25
	G. Copper, brass, bronze, German silver, and other metals alloyed with copper; also aluminium and nickel—			
446	Casts of busts or statues, weighing more than 25 kilogs. each	"	0·25	0·50
*ex*447	Bells, axle boxes, door and window fittings, door knobs, taps and valves, injectors, hinges, locks, knives, mortars, castors for furniture, flat-irons, thimbles, sewing shields, buckles, knobs for drawers and the like, rings and hooks with or without screws, watchkeys: all combined or not with other materials—			
	Weighing 1 hectogram or less each	"	0·50	1·00

(*To be continued.*)

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NETHERLANDS.

Certificates of Origin for Sugar: Modified Regulations.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 216 of the "Journal" for the 29th October, 1903, respecting certificates of origin for sugar imported into the Netherlands, the Board of Trade have now received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of a Dutch Royal Decree, dated the 6th May, 1905, providing that sugar imported into the Netherlands *or issued from bond for consumption* must be accompanied by a certificate of origin, except in the case of sugar passing through the Netherlands in transit, *whether in bond or not.* [NOTE.—The words in *italics* do not appear in the Decree of October, 1903.]

PORTUGAL.

Temporary Reduction of Import Duty on Rye.

The Portuguese "Diario do Governo" for the 18th May contains the text of a Royal Decree reducing the import duty on rye to 8 reis per kilog. This reduced duty is to remain in force up to the 20th inst., after which date the import duty of 16 reis per kilog., fixed by the present Customs Tariff, will be restored.

SPAIN.

Rate of Exchange for Adjustment of Customs Duties payable in Gold.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 1st June contains a Royal Order notifying that the average rate of exchange (premium of exchange on Paris) during the second fortnight of May was 31·77 per cent., and that the corresponding reduction in payments of Customs duties which have to be made in gold during the first fortnight of the present month is to be 24 per cent.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Prohibition of the Exportation of Fodder Cancelled.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 313 of the "Journal" for the 18th August last reporting the prohibition against the exportation of fodder from Austria-Hungary, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Decree which has been issued by the Austro-Hungarian Government revoking the prohibition in question from the 24th May.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Customs Decisions.

The following is the substance of some Decisions affecting the application of the United States Customs Tariff, which have recently been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington :—

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
Shoe buckles.—Steel slides or buckles used in the manufacture of shoes or slippers; dutiable as manufactures of steel	193	45 % *ad val.*
Glass blanks cut or ground for any purpose and to any extent	100	60 % "
Glass plates for optical instruments, temporarily polished on the edges; as glass plates rough-cut or unwrought...	565	Free.
Grass cloth.—Woven fabrics of grass cloth used to be made into trimmings and decorations of hats; dutiable as manufactures of vegetable fibre ...	347	45 % *ad val.*
Batavia hides (hides of the domesticated buffalo)...	437	15 % "

Feathers.—Egret plumes and all other feathers, whether ornamental or not, imported in the crude state, are dutiable at the rate of 15 per cent. *ad valorem* under paragraph 425 of the Tariff.

Animals for breeding purposes.—In the absence of the documents required to identify animals imported for breeding purposes and to establish the nationality of the importer, officers of Customs are authorised to permit the duty-free importation of the animals, under the provisions of the Act of the 3rd March, 1903,* on the importer's giving a (voluntary) bond in double the amount of the estimated duties to produce the documents in question within 90 days.

Gold leaf.—Marking of books of gold leaf with the name of the country of origin.—In the case of gold leaf imported in packages containing a number of separate books, it is not sufficient to mark only the wrappers of the packages to indicate the country of origin, but each book must be considered a package, and must accordingly be legibly stamped with the name of the country of origin.

Undervaluation.—Percentage of additional duties—How estimated.—The percentage of additional duties imposed on imported goods for undervaluation under section 7 of the Customs Administrative Act of 10th June, 1890, is to be computed on the basis of the entered value of the merchandise, which should include the cost of the coverings and the packing, as provided in section 19 of that Act.

* See the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 28th May, 1903.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

Brushes imported with paints.—Paint brushes packed in separate cartons in the same case with oil colours in tubes and water colours in pans, and invoiced separately, are not dutiable at the rate applicable to the paints. The brushes are dutiable separately at the rate of 40 per cent. *ad valorem* under paragraph 410 of the Tariff.

Damask table covers, napkins, doilies, and other completed articles made of cotton damask are dutiable at the rate applicable according to count of threads, weight, value, &c., under the countable clauses of the cotton schedule of the Tariff, and not under the provisions of paragraph 321.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Tariff Classification of Linen Drills.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that linen drills (*brins*) imported by the Argentine Store Departments of War and of Marine are to be classified by the Customs Department under No. 1,724 of the Tariff. (Duty, 25 per cent. on a valuation of 70 cents per kilog.)

SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

RUSSIA.

Railway Returns for 1904.

H.M. Consul at Moscow (Mr. H. M. Grove) has forwarded the following returns of the Russian railways for 1904, as issued by the statistical department of the Ministry of Ways and Communications :—

——		1903.	1904.
No. of passengers conveyed		128,000,000	119,000,000
Gross weight of goods, &c., carried ...	...Pouds	8,565,000,000	8,660,000,000
Gross receipts	Roubles	656,000,000	652,000,000

1 poud = 36 lbs.

BELGIUM.

Port Works at Antwerp.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office, from H.M. Minister at Brussels (Sir C. Phipps, K.C.M.G., C.B.), in which he states that the Belgian Finance Minister, in presenting his Bill for the enlargement of the Port of Antwerp, estimates that the total net cost of these works to the State will amount to 101,600,000 francs (4,064,000*l.*), the greater part of which outlay, he declares, will be productive.

Of this sum, 66,500,000 francs (2,660,000*l.*) will be expended on

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the construction of the new river bed for the Scheldt, with its quay wall, and in strengthening the left bank of the river; while 12,000,000 francs (480,000*l.*) will be spent on the canal and lock connecting the new with the old bed which is to be converted into a basin for shipping. The remaining 23,000,000 francs (920,000*l.*) is not considered as directly productive expenditure, and will be devoted to various supplementary works of construction necessitated by the scheme.

AUSTRIA—HUNGARY.

S.S. Service between Trieste and Dalmatian Ports.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, the following memorandum by H.M. Consul at Trieste (Mr. J. B. Spence), on the subject of a suggested improvement in steamship service with Dalmatian ports.

"In the sitting of the Vienna Chamber of Commerce (25th May, 1905), a detailed report expressing the wishes of the merchants and manufacturers of Lower Austria with respect to the reorganisation of the steamship service with Dalmatia was presented. The report points out the importance of Dalmatia as a transit outlet for the Austrian trade with the Balkans, and especially with Bosnia-Herzegovina, Servia, Montenegro, Albania and Macedonia, and therefore asks that the steamship service should become more frequent and rapid, and particularly that communication with Spalato and Metcovich be ameliorated. It also asks for special goods tariffs for Dalmatian ports."

MEXICO.

Railway Rates from Tampico.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from H.M. Consul at Mexico City (Mr. L. J. Jerome) a copy of the goods classification approved by the Government for use on the Mexican Central Railway, together with a copy of the tariff of freight rates from Tampico to all stations on this railway.

These publications may be examined by persons interested at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Approaching Completion of Tuxpan Canal.

According to an extract from "El Mundo," forwarded by H.M. Consul in Mexico City (Mr. L. J. Jerome), the works on the new Tuxpan Canal, which is to supersede the present provisional canal, are rapidly approaching completion. Free navigation will thus soon be established between the ports of Tampico and Tuxpan; this will, it is expected, considerably stimulate trade on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico.

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MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Enquiry under the Boiler Explosions Act.

A formal investigation was held in the Town Hall, Truro, on the 30th and 31st May, into the circumstances attending the explosion of a portable locomotive boiler, which occurred at St. Stephen's-in-Brannell, Cornwall, on the 16th September last. The engineer who advised the owner, on purchase, that the boiler was satisfactory, when he should have condemned it, was ordered to pay 50*l.* towards the costs of the investigation. The owner also was censured for omitting to have the boiler periodically inspected.

NATAL.

Mining Industries.

The following note has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from their correspondent at Durban (Mr. A. D. C. Agnew):—

"A correspondent of the 'Natal Mercury' reports the discovery of a rich copper deposit, about 20 miles from Harding, in Alfred County, near the Ingeli Mountain on the Cape Colony border, and he states that mercury and asbestos options in the same locality have been secured by a Johannesburg syndicate. He adds that a deposit of graphite in the same district, which is being worked by an English company, is more than fulfilling expectations."

FRANCE.

China Clay.

In his report for 1904, H.M. Consul at Bordeaux (Mr. R. D. G. Macdonald) states that so many references have been made to the Consulate on the subject of china clay that it may be advisable to state that the import in 1904 consisted altogether of under 180 tons. So little interest is taken in this trade that it has not even been possible to ascertain particulars relative to these small consignments, much less to place British producers in communication with anyone willing to do business in this article. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,381.)

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Mineral Wealth of Adana untouched.

In his report for 1904, the British Vice-Consul at Adana (Captain A. F. Townshend) states that the mineral wealth which undoubtedly exists in the mountains to the north of the Adana plain is still practically untouched. Many people have attempted to get mining concessions, but without success, as the Government does not seem to wish the mining industry to be taken up. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,363.)

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Coal Production in 1904.

According to the "Engineering and Mining Journal" (New York) a preliminary statement of the coal production of the United States in 1904 has been issued by the United States Geological Survey. The total given is 351,196,953 tons (of 2,000 lbs.), as compared with 359,421,311 tons in 1903. The quantity of anthracite produced was 73,156,709 tons, as compared with 74,313,919 tons in 1903, and of bituminous 278,040,244 tons, as compared with 285,107,392 tons.

MEXICO.

Discovery of Agate.

According to an extract from "El Mundo" forwarded by H.M. Consul in Mexico City (Mr. L. J. Jerome), several deposits of agate have been discovered near San Pablo, State of Guerrero. In the opinion of experts, the agate is of excellent quality, bearing a strong resemblance to that obtained from Santangelo and Pivorni in Italy.

BRAZIL.

Monazite Sands.

With reference to the notice on p. 455 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 3rd December, 1903, a despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from the Acting British Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. C. B. Rhind), from which it appears that the Supreme Tribunal has confirmed the exclusive right claimed by the Federal Government to control the working and exportation of monazite sands, on the ground that the lands whence these sands are derived, forming the foreshores of seas and rivers, are the property of the Union and not of the States.

CHINA.

Copper Deposits.

H.M. Consul-General at Hankow (Mr. E. D. H. Fraser, C.M.G.) reports that though Hupei and the adjoining provinces undoubtedly contain valuable copper deposits, supplies are brought from Japan, America, Australia, the United Kingdom and Germany, since the mining regulations promised within 12 months of the 1902 treaty are still unpublished and must be published before foreigners may engage in mining. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,386.)

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

JAPAN.

Manufacture of Steel Rails.

According to the report for 1904 of H.M. Secretary of Legation at Tokio (Mr. G. Barclay), it may safely be said that but for the war most of the rails imported during the past year would have been manufactured in Japan at the Imperial Steel works. Figures are not available, but it is known for certain that about 18,000 tons of 60-lb. rails were manufactured there for use in building the military lines in Korea, besides many thousand tons of lighter rails. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,377.)

YARNS AND TEXTILES.

RUSSIA.

Warsaw Wool Fair.

H.M. Consul-General at Warsaw (Mr. A. Murray) reports that the Annual Wool Fair at that town will be held this year on 15th and 16th June.

MEXICO.

New Textile Industry.

H.M. Consul in Mexico City (Mr. L. J. Jerome) has forwarded to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade an extract from "El Mundo" of 19th May, in which it is stated that a group of agriculturists and merchants in the State of Sinaloa are promoting a scheme for exploiting the fibre obtained from the common mallow. It is said that the larger part of the agricultural zone of Sinaloa is eminently adapted for growing mallow, and it is proposed to establish industrial centres for the treatment of fibre in various districts throughout the State. "El Mundo" adds that this should prove a remunerative industry, as even with the very primitive methods of maceration hitherto employed, a large percentage of fibre has been obtained from the plant.

JAPAN.

Consumption of Textiles.

H.M. Secretary of Legation at Tokio (Mr. G. Barclay) states in his report for 1904 that the native output of textiles for home consumption is estimated at about 14,000,000*l.*, and imports from abroad amount to fully 1,500,000*l.* more. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,377.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Exports of Cotton Goods.

The following statement, showing the exports of cotton goods (domestic manufacture) from the United States to the undermentioned countries during the four months ended April, 1904 and 1905, has been compiled from the official statistics issued by the United States Government:—

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Yarns and Textiles.

To	Four months ended April. 1904.	1905.
Coloured and uncoloured cloths—	Yards.	Yards.
United Kingdom	691,361	1,172,992
France	—	—
Germany	30,325	18,062
Other Europe	406,019	521,350
British North America	3,233,270	3,109,734
Central America and British Honduras	7,799,380	9,963,172
Mexico	922,094	1,165,927
Cuba	1,617,331	5,294,246
Other West Indies and Bermuda	6,205,719	8,658,163
Argentina	863,539	1,571,388
Brazil	3,353,423	3,651,870
Chile	4,940,326	4,349,818
Colombia	4,134,383	3,718,567
Venezuela	2,631,739	2,931,424
Other South America	2,298,703	2,987,539
Chinese Empire	32,406,619	167,223,278
British East Indies	2,192,869	3,869,035
Hong-Kong	78,642	184,628
Japan	196,239	4,069,502
British Australasia	1,862,564	2,753,747
Philippine Islands	2,226,341	6,378,374
Other Asia and Oceania	9,244,667	6,103,449
British Africa	2,132,140	2,239,821
All other Africa	96,261	104,405
Total quantity ... ... Yards	89,563,954	242,040,491
Total value ... ... Dols.	5,440,293	14,484,264
Other cotton goods—	Dollars.	Dollars.
United Kingdom	363,581	341,786
Belgium	25,563	23,690
France	3,592	7,171
Germany	324,374	157,521
Netherlands	10,705	5,532
Other Europe	30,344	24,372
British North America	863,718	838,502
Central America and British Honduras	183,187	242,508
Mexico	168,339	219,381
Cuba	88,550	106,077
Other West Indies and Bermuda	81,342	82,684
Argentina	45,590	130,781
Brazil	27,286	21,477
Chile	6,661	7,052
Colombia	30,175	19,288
Venezuela	18,389	6,662
Other South America	13,124	14,762
Chinese Empire	10,805	118,893
British East Indies	2,132	1,249
Hong-Kong	7,732	4,681
British Australasia	126,527	134,904
Philippine Islands	26,092	27,732
Other Asia and Oceania	30,788	70,629
British Africa	47,384	89,528
All other Africa	2,498	2,839
Other countries	1,967	2,883
Total value ... ... Dols.	2,540,445	2,702,584
Grand total value of all cotton goods exported Dols.	7,980,738	17,186,848

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 3rd June, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	31*s.*	3*d.*
Barley	23*s.*	6*d.*
Oats	19*s.*	1*d.*

For further particulars see p. 470.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 471, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 3rd June, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

NETHERLANDS.

Fruit Exchange at Rotterdam.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul at Rotterdam (Mr. H. Turing) reporting the establishment in that city of a fruit exchange.

It appears that the weekly meetings of members of the Rotterdam "Association of Fruit and Vegetable Exporters," which are held from September to March, principally in connection with the trade in onions and potatoes, have resulted in the necessity being acknowledged of also holding meetings during the summer months of those interested in garden produce and fruit. As a result, the "Rotterdam Fruit Exchange" was established on the 1st May last.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—HAWAII.

Sisal Cultivation.

H.M. Consul at Honolulu (Mr. R. de B. Layard) in his report for 1904, writes as follows with regard to sisal cultivation:—"The sisal plantation started by the Hawaiian Fibre Company on the Island of Oahu has now about 750 acres planted in sisal. To quote a report of that company recently published: When first started the company represented an investment of about 37,000 dols. (say 7,400*l.*), but later, owing to the success of the enterprise, the company increased its capital to 75,000 dols. (say 15,000*l.*). It is expected that the area of the plantation will shortly be considerably increased, if not doubled. Sisal requires four years before the first crop matures. The most promising localities for the growth of sisal have been found to be comparatively barren, dry soils of the leeward coasts of the islands. There are probably thousands of acres of land with thin stony soil, unsuited for sugar-cane, which can be utilised for sisal cultivation. There are other plantations on the islands, and, judging from the success of the venture and the condition of the industry, it may be hoped that the future of sisal in this territory is now assured." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,365.)

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MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Inspectors of Weights and Measures.

The following persons, nominated by a Local Authority to the post of Inspector of Weights and Measures, have during the month of May, 1905, passed the examination provided for in the 8th section of the Weights and Measures Act, 1904:—J. Beveridge, Kendal; C. Keating, Northumberland; T. Kennedy, Ayr Burgh; H. Maclennan, Inverness-shire; R. Robertson, Fife-shire; W. B. Robinson, Preston; R. Sliming, Northumberland; H. S. Swain, Rotherham; R. H. Taylor, Northumberland.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 1st June, 1905, was 96,595 (including 227 bales British West Indian), and the number imported during the 22 weeks ended the 1st June was 1,936,917 (including 2,452 bales British West Indian and 1,003 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 1st June, 1905, 5,198 bales, and for the 22 weeks, 206,653.

For further details see p. 470.

A return showing the number of bales of cotton imported and exported, forwarded from ports to Inland towns, and returned to ports during the month and five months ended 31st May last, will be found on p. 469.

Emigration.

The number of emigrants that left the United Kingdom during the month of May, 1905, was 45,267, as compared with 37,671 during the same month of 1904.

For further details see p. 472.

FRANCE—COCHIN CHINA.

Import Trade from Europe.

The following statement, showing the value of the imports (excluding specie) from Europe into French Cochin China in the years 1901–03, distinguishing piece-goods, is extracted from the recent report (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,378) of the British Vice-Consul at Saigon (Mr. J. L. O'Connell):—

——	1901.	1902.	1903.
	Dollars.	Dollars.	Dollars.
Piece-goods of French origin	9,341,257	6,348,962	5,236,190
" foreign "	6,934,890	8,627,815	6,487,747
General merchandise of French origin...	14,712,502	14,647,649	16,750,926
" " foreign " ...	19,248,292	22,894,205	26,511,162
Total	50,236,941	52,518,631	54,986,025

NOTE.—1 dollar = say 1*s.* 10½*d.*

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Miscellaneous.

MOROCCO.

Opening of Telegraph Cable Tangier—Cadiz.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Minister at Tangier (Mr. G. A. Lowther, C.B.) reporting the opening of the French telegraph cable from Tangier to Cadiz.

COSTA RICA.

Trade and Agriculture in 1904.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy of the Annual Message to Congress of the President of Costa Rica, forwarded by H.M. Consul at San José (Mr. F. Nutter Cox).

Señor Esquivel states that the general trade of Costa Rica shows a small but steady increase. The total value of the exports in 1904 amounted to 15,185,929 colons (about 1,518,592*l.*) and of the imports to 12,850,853 colons (about 1,285,085*l.*). The coffee crop was smaller than any in the past ten years; but agriculture, on the whole, is in a favourable condition and the cultivation of cocoa and bananas has developed largely.

CHINA.

Trade of Hankow in 1904.

The following table, showing the course of trade at the port of Hankow during the years 1902–4, is extracted from the recent report of H.M. Consul-General there (Mr. E. D. H. Fraser, C.M.G.):—

—	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£
Imports—			
Foreign	4,901,081	7,253,393	7,630,595
Less re-exports	1,407,772	2,400,347	2,354,805
Net foreign	3,493,309	4,853,046	5,275,790
Native	2,781,337	2,951,381	4,472,818
Less re-exports	2,038,612	2,082,542	3,439,572
Net native	742,725	868,839	1,033,246
Exports (native)	5,359,419	7,340,490	9,035,619
Total net trade	9,595,453	13,062,375	15,344,655

With regard to the above figures, Mr. Fraser adds it must be remembered that there is a large trade of which the Imperial Maritime Customs takes no cognisance, and that while native exports and re-exports are calculated at 13 per cent. above market value at Hankow, and 25 per cent. above market value at Chungking, foreign imports are stated at Shanghai values. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,386.)

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.—May, 1905.

Return of the Number of Bales of Cotton Imported and Exported, Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns, and Returned to Ports during the Month and Five Months ended 31st May, 1905, compared with the corresponding Periods of the Year 1904.

	Month of May.		Five Months ended 31st May.	
	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*
	Imports.			
American	374,409	*185,248*	1,582,871	*1,076,852*
Brazilian	10,311	*7,322*	28,700	*74,706*
East Indian	4,769	*26,283*	22,982	*118,944*
Egyptian	32,378	*26,229*	227,232	*210,557*
Miscellaneous	4,107*	*6,629*	27,985†	*25,635*
Total	425,974	*251,711*	1,889,270	*1,506,694*
	Exports.			
American	21,084	*5,974*	187,025	*125,927*
Brazilian	179	*431*	507	*3,552*
East Indian	537	*4,284*	6,192	*26,798*
Egyptian	7,744	*6,091*	49,182	*42,769*
Miscellaneous	351	*980*	1,398	*4,122*
Total	29,895	*17,760*	194,304	*203,168*
	Forwarded from Ports to Inland Towns.			
American	281,738	*169,166*	1,325,875	*911,627*
Brazilian	7,656	*4,217*	18,123	*40,185*
East Indian	2,728	*11,620*	13,989	*46,628*
Egyptian	26,904	*21,225*	153,838	*146,152*
Miscellaneous	3,211	*2,173*	15,698	*19,751*
Total	322,237	*208,401*	1,527,523	*1,164,343*
	Forwarded from Inland Towns to Ports.			
American	188	*205*	1,069	*1,803*
Brazilian	—	—	—	—
East Indian	—	—	—	—
Egyptian	—	—	—	—
Miscellaneous	—	—	—	—
Total	188	*205*	1,069	*1,803*

* Including 1,000 bales British West Indian and 160 bales British West African.
† Including 2,446 bales British West Indian and 706 bales British West African.

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Cotton Returns—*continued.*

Return of the **Number** of **Bales** of **Cotton Imported** and **Exported** at the **Various Ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the Week and 22 Weeks ended 1st June, 1905 :—

—	Week ended 1st June, 1905.	22 Weeks ended 1st June, 1905.	Week ended 1st June, 1905.	22 Weeks ended 1st June, 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	86,576	1,613,944	4,077	146,824
Brazilian	754	28,700	—	507
East Indian	1,371	23,762	—	6,192
Egyptian	7,433	241,996	1,006	51,732
Miscellaneous	461*	28,515†	115	1,398‡
Total	96,595	1,936,917	5,198	206,653

* Including 227 bales British West Indian.
† " 2,452 bales British West Indian and 1,003 bales British West African.
‡ " 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the **Average Price** of **British Corn**, per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 3rd June, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 3rd June, 1905	31	3	23	6	19	1
Corresponding week in—						
1898	45	4	25	8	20	11
1899	25	6	21	10	18	2
1900	25	3	23	8	18	8
1901	27	6	22	9	20	1
1902	31	3	24	3	22	11
1903	27	6	23	10	18	4
1904	26	10	18	8	16	8

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 3rd June, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

		Week ended 3rd June, 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	11,905	*13,075*
Sheep and lambs	"	3,933	*5,627*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	151	*240*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	76,615	*107,206*
Mutton	"	89,761	*153,364*
Pork	"	2,912	*7,737*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	104,791	*101,468*
Beef	"	3,718	*1,556*
Hams	"	35,950	*32,260*
Pork	"	3,396	*4,503*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	11,596	*16,790*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	16,114	*14,617*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	57,397	*87,354*
Margarine	"	18,922	*16,487*
Cheese	"	23,180	*47,327*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	96	*102*
" condensed	"	15,528	*16,543*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	9	*123*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	675,027	*536,007*
Poultry	Value £	14,180	*11,362*
Game	"	114	*935*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	360	*1,515*
Lard	"	31,320	*37,004*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	2,201,800	*1,853,467*
Wheat meal and flour	"	205,600	*229,288*
Barley	"	476,100	*299,058*
Oats	"	594,800	*297,631*
Peas	"	43,294	*75,260*
Beans	"	12,440	*4,470*
Maize or Indian corn	"	670,600	*617,552*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	30,678	*41,621*
Apricots and peaches	"	295	*33*
Bananas	Bunches.	109,929	*78,233*
Cherries	Cwts.	14,171	*30,555*
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	35	*388*
Grapes	"	169	*253*
Lemons	"	17,019	*29,757*
Oranges	"	71,706	*157,494*
Pears	"	28	*536*
Plums	"	—	*10*
Strawberries	"	578	*3,388*
Unenumerated	"	2,204	*2,626*
Hay...	Tons.	1,885	*3,181*
Straw	"	2,838	*3,758*
Moss Litter*	"	1,649	—
Hops	Cwts.	397	*403*
Locust Beans	"	6,080	*5,036*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	142,710	*132,030*
Potatoes	Cwts.	262,020	*377,334*
Tomatoes	"	38,669	*18,613*
Unenumerated	Value £	17,361	*11,791*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	1,551	*3,382*
Preserved by canning...	"	6,671	*3,257*

* Not shown in 1904.

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Emigration.—May, 1905.

Return of the **Numbers, Nationalities,** and **Destinations*** of the **Passengers** that left the **United Kingdom** for **Places** out of **Europe** during the Month ending 31st May, 1905, and the Five Months ending 31st May, 1905, compared with the corresponding periods of the previous Year.

Nationality.	British Empire.						Foreign Countries.			Grand Total.	*Total for corresponding Period of 1904.*
	British North America.	Australia and New Zealand.	British South Africa.	India, including Ceylon.	Other British Colonies and Possessions.	Total.	United States.	Other Foreign Countries.	Total.		
	Month ending 31st May.										
English	8,823	638	1,091	85	196	10,833	5,120	323	5,443	16,276	*14,331*
Scotch	2,070	113	267	13	9	2,472	1,961	22	1,983	4,455	*3,674*
Irish	546	51	85	1	3	686	5,102	21	5,123	5,809	*5,736*
Total of British origin.	11,439	802	1,443	99	208	13,991	12,183	366	12,549	26,540	*23,741*
Foreigners	3,922	27	332	5	28	4,314	13,851	180	14,031	18,345	*13,515*
Nationalities not distinguished	5	—	—	40	139	184	29	169	198	382	*385*
Total	15,366	829	1,775	144	375	18,489	26,063	715	26,778	45,267	*37,671*
Total for corresponding period, 1904 ...	*11,776*	*808*	*1,972*	*225*	*324*	*15,105*	*22,043*	*523*	*22,566*	*37,671*	
	Five Months ending 31st May.										
English	32,301	3,267	6,896	1,026	1,548	45,038	23,221	2,111	25,332	70,370	*60,991*
Scotch	6,460	458	1,604	66	73	8,661	7,044	221	7,265	15,926	*13,413*
Irish	1,565	186	414	2	13	2,180	20,585	93	20,678	22,858	*18,276*
Total of British origin.	40,326	3,911	8,914	1,094	1,634	55,879	50,850	2,425	53,275	109,154	*92,680*
Foreigners	10,489	91	1,601	46	105	12,332	65,303	1,863	67,166	79,498	*55,956*
Nationalities not distinguished	11	—	—	574	788	1,373	373	1,143	1,516	2,889	*2,395*
Total	50,826	4,002	10,515	1,714	2,527	69,584	116,526	5,431	121,957	191,541	*150,131*
Total for corresponding period, 1904 ...	*41,972*	*4,091*	*11,806*	*1,866*	*2,532*	*62,267*	*84,169*	*3,695*	*87,864*	*150,131*	

* The destinations given are, in all cases, based on the ports at which the passengers contracted to land.

NOTE.—The above figures being made up at the earliest possible date after the close of each month, are subject to correction in the Annual Returns.

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of May, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1903, in two volumes, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 1*d.* for the first, and 5*s.* for the second volume, at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1899–1903, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country) in the first volume, and in the second volume details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the May issue:—State of the Labour Market in April; Tenth Abstract of Labour Statistics; Emigration and Immigration in 1904; Relief of the Unemployed; Coal Exports, 1900–1904; and recent Conciliation Cases.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the Annual Series issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,385. Trade of Hayti and Santo Domingo, 1904.

Continued diminution in purchasing power of the country.

Good cotton-growing prospects.

Railway extensions.

Concessions for mining and wood-cutting.

Table of exports.

No. 3,386. Trade of Hankow, 1904.

Trade satisfactory, but progress slower than in the preceding three years.

Notes on imports. Japan's increased share in trade in cotton goods, &c.

Report on export trade in tea, hides, sesamum seed, &c.

Returns of imports, exports and shipping.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,387. Trade of Kobe and Osaka, 1904.

Record figure in foreign trade, in spite of war. Lists of principal articles of import and export in which variations in value took place, and notes on the same.

The cigarette-manufacturing and cut-tobacco monopolies.

Favourable position of United Kingdom and Colonies in the returns of total trade of the ports.

Increase in shipbuilding yards.

Extension of internal communications.

Returns of imports, exports, and shipping.

No. 3,388. Trade of Bolivia, 1904.

Small share of the United Kingdom in the country's trade.

Expected developments in view of railway construction.

Government Decrees relating to issue of Government bonds and making British sovereign legal tender.

Statistics of mineral and other production; also of imports and exports.

Mineral wealth of the country.

Translation of treaty between Chile and Bolivia.

This publication contains also reports by the British Vice-Consuls at Oruro and Sucre.

No. 3,389. Trade, Commerce, and Agriculture of Pondicherry and Karikal, 1904.

Increased wine and spirit import, in spite of duty.

Comparative tables of imports and exports.

No. 3,390. Trade of Germany, 1904. (Supplementary).

Considerable increase in volume of trade, but only moderate increase in profits.

Average dividends paid by the different groups of industries.

Notes, with figures of production and consumption, on the condition of the coal and iron industries.

Activity of the electrical industry.

Production and export of textiles.

No. 3,391. Trade and Navigation of Rotterdam, 1904.

Shipping trade greatly depressed.

Completion of the fourth municipal dry dock. Canal and dock facilities.

List of regular lines of steamers from Rotterdam.

Statistics of imports and exports into and from the Netherlands in 1902-4, with notes on the character of trade.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,392. Trade of Denmark, 1904.

Trade dull except in colonial goods and corn.

Notes on the egg, butter and bacon trade.

Use of petroleum motors for fishing boats.

New Law for protection of patterns and designs.

Necessity for commercial travellers to carry licenses, duly endorsed by a Danish Consul.

Tables of imports and exports.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Patents, Designs, and Trade Marks. Twenty-second Report of the Comptroller-General. 175. *Price* 3*d.*

This report deals with the work of the Patent Office during the year 1904. The number of applications for patents and for registration of designs and trade marks in 1904, as compared with the two preceding years, is shown by the following table :—

	1902.	1903.	1904.
Patents—			
Applications	28,972	28,853	29,678
Specifications—			
Provisional	22,605	22,198	22,442
Complete	14,877	15,821	15,920
Sealed	13,764	15,718	15,089
Designs—			
Applications	17,825	21,104	23,531
Registered	17,106	20,426	22,604
Trade Marks—			
Applications	8,899	9,467	9,972
Registered	3,377	3,748	3,842

The report also contains a list of the principal enactments in foreign countries and British possessions during 1904, which either introduced legislation in regard to patents, trade marks, &c,, or modified existing laws.

An appendix to the report contains the new rules, cited as the "Patents Rules," 1905, which came into force on the 1st January, 1905, for regulating the procedure under Section 1 of the new Act.

An analysis of the subject-matter of the applications for patents made during 1904 shows that the activity in the motor-car industry still continues. Though the number of applications pertaining to motor cars reached a maximum in the previous year, this number was almost reached in 1904, while in the details, such as wheels (including tyres), lamps, variable speed gearing, and oil motors, the numbers of 1903 have been considerably exceeded. The attention that is being given in engineering circles to turbines is

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Government Publications.

significantly illustrated by the fact that more applications for patents were made for this class of motor than for all classes of reciprocating steam engines put together. The actual numbers under turbines show a considerable increase on those of 1903, while there is a corresponding decrease in the number of steam engines and also of steam generators. The keenness of the competition between gas and electricity as illuminants is strikingly brought out by the figures of 1904, for, though, on the one hand, the numbers of applications bearing upon dynamos, and upon both arc and incandescent electric lamps, are greater than those of 1903, there is at the same time a marked increase in the numbers relating to gas lamps, and, what is perhaps still more significant, in the numbers relating to the manufacture and purification of gas. The subject of mercury vapour lamps, to which reference was made in the last annual report, has received increased attention during the year, especially from American inventors, but the inventions have been mainly directed towards the adaptation of such lamps to a variety of novel purposes other than lighting, such as switching, rectifying, controlling, and distributing electric currents.

Bulletin of the Imperial Institute. Vol. III. No. 1, 1905. *Price* 1*s.*

This is the first issue of the Imperial Institute Bulletin as a separate quarterly publication (see notice on p. 390 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 1st June). It contains accounts of recent additions to the Indian and Colonial Economic Collections; reports on recent investigations by the Scientific and Technical Department (including those relating to the volatile oil of *Backhousia citriodora* from Queensland; rubber from Rhodesia; timbers and fibres from the British Central Africa Protectorate; cotton from the South African Colonies; petroleum from Trinidad and mineral pitch from Lagos); and also general notices respecting economic products.

Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries. Reports.

A return containing a digest of information received from His Majesty's Representatives abroad, with regard to iron ore deposits, as the results of enquiries instituted by the Board of Trade, through the Foreign Office, at the suggestion of the British Iron Trade Association, has been prepared in the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board, and will be issued as a Parliamentary Paper within the course of the next few days. This volume will contain information relating to deposits of iron ore in foreign countries, the respective means of transport, cost of labour, analyses of ore, &c., together with other particulars likely to be of service to those interested in the iron trade in this country.

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.—In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Among the branches of work now carried on by the Imperial Institute at South Kensington are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which is exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Imperial Institute Bulletin," issued quarterly, contains information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

March, 1905.

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SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

March, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

To Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

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Absorbent Blottings—
Tullis, R., & Co., Markinch, Fife 1

Adamantine Clinker (Regd.)—
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

Admiralty Charts—
Potter, J. D., 145, Minories ...

Agents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

Agricultural Seeds—
Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. ...
Gaskain, D. H., & Co., 45, Borough, London, S.E. ...

Air Compressors—
Woodhouse & Mitchell, Brighouse, Yorks ... ...

Ale, Beer, and Stout Merchants—
Daukes & Co., Strand, London 6

Alkali Manufacturers—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ... ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Alloys—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
The Atlas Metal & Alloys Co., Ltd., 52, Queen Victoria Street, E.C. ...

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Ammonia, Anhydrous, & Liquid—
Brotherton & Co., Leeds (Carbonate of Ammonia, Muriate of Ammonia, &c.)

Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
Scotch and Irish Oxygen Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Ammunition Manufacturers—
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow ... ...

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Anti friction Metal—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
The Atlas Metal & Alloys Co., Ltd., 52, Queen Victoria Street, E.C. ...

Antimony Paint—
Parker & Lester, London, S.E.

Artists' Colours—
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Athletic Goods Manufacturers—
Quaife Bros. & Lilley, 313, Broad Street, Birmingham

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Bags and Sacks—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool 8

Barrels, Casks, Shooks, &c.—
Rankin, G. & J., Ltd., 2/4, Houlgrove St., Liverpool...

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton ... ...

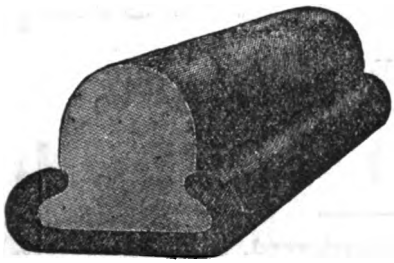
Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. ...

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham... ...
Evered & Co., London and Birmingham ... ...
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C.
Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London ...

Bellows—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...

Bevelled and Bent Glass—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham 11

RUBBER TYRES,
OLD STYLE.



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We hold large stocks of all sizes, Rubber, Channels and Wheels (Warner or Sweet Concealed Band). Shall be pleased to quote for prompt delivery f.o.b. U.K. Ports.

Specify on Indents J. W. & T. CONNOLLY Brand. Orders through all British Merchants. No Credit Accounts opened out of the United Kingdom. Direct Orders must be accompanied by remittance to cover cost.

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Best Quality.

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STOURBRIDGE.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

TO MERCHANTS, MANUFACTURERS, AND SHIPPERS WHOSE ADVERTISEMENTS APPEAR IN THE "BOARD OF TRADE JOURNAL"—*continued.*

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Billiard Table Manufacturers—
Cox & Yeman, London, S.W.
Edwards, George, London, N.E. 4

Binoxide of Barium—
Bessler, Waechter & Co., 18 & 19, Fenchurch Street, E.C.
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...

Bird Seeds and Foods—
Hyde, R., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, J., & Son, 58, City Road, E.C.... ... ...

Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. ... ...

Blacking (Nubian)—
The Nubian Manufacturing Co., Lorrimore St., London, S.E. ... ...

Blankets—Cotton—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Bleaching Powder—
Brunner, Mond & Co., Northwich, Cheshire ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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Blue Manufacturers—
Edge, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Bolton... 17

Boiler Incrustation (Prevention and Removal of)—
The Boilerine Manufacturing Co., Old Kent Road, S.E...
Warwick Bros., Hulme, Manchester ... ...

Boiler Makers—
Butterley Co. (The), Ld., Derby
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Garrett, R., & Son, Ltd., Leiston, R.S.O. ... ...
Hartley & Sugden, Ltd., Halifax ... ...
Marriott & Graham, Govan, N.B. ... ...

Boiler Makers and Heating Engineers—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Boiler Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Bolts, Nuts and Screws—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham 25
Periam, Herb. W., Birmingham (Screws, Rivets, Washers, Nails (Roofing))

Bone Mill Manufacturers—
Carter, J. Harrison, Dunstable

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Boot Polish, "Balmoral Glass," "Nubian Ojo Paste"—
The Nubian Manufacturing Co., Lorrimore St., London. S.E. ... ...

Boots and Shoes—
Lewis, C. & E., Northampton

Bottled Fruits—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Brass Finishers—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury

Brassfounders—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Brass Scrap Merchants—
Adams, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Bread & Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Brick & Tile Manufacturers—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles)
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

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Foreign Hard and Fancy Wood Merchants,

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Manufacturers of Ash Boat Oars, Handspikes, and of Cornel and Persimmons Shuttle Blocks.

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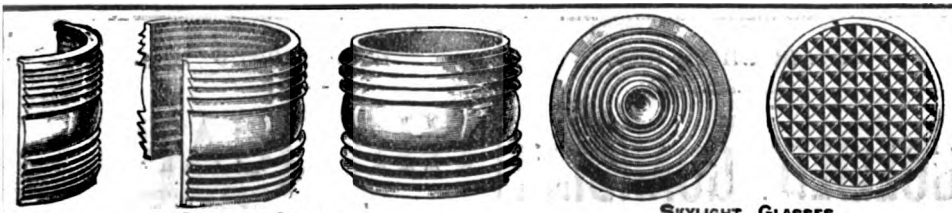

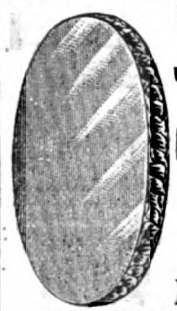

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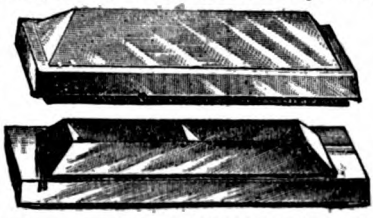

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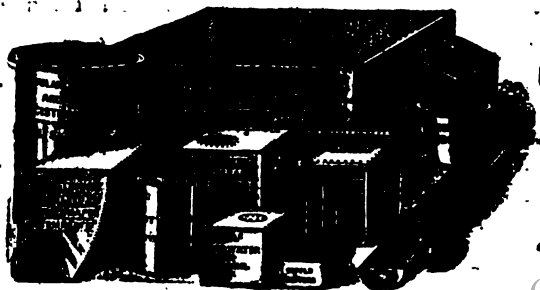

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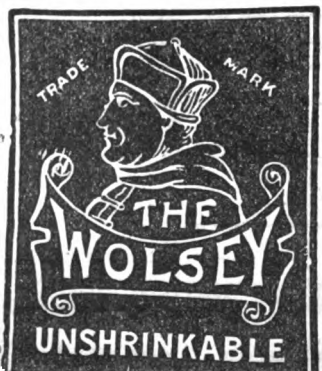

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Injectors—
Willcox, W. H., & Co., Ltd., London, S.E. ... ...

Ink Manufacturers—
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Inkstands—
Darke, E., 14a, Gt. Marlborough Street, W. ... ...

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Knitting Machine Builders—
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Lacquer Manufacturers—
Flack, Henry, London, S.E...
Jackson, T. S., & Sons, London, S.E. ... ...
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Lamp Manufacturers—
Bladon, T. E., 99 and 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...

Lathes (Turning, Polishing, &c.)—
Fabricotti, B., London, S.W..
Northern Engineering Co., Ltd., King's Cross, near Halifax ... ...

Launch Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Patricroft, Manchester ...

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The Seal Motor Co., Hammersmith, London ... ...

Lead Glazing—
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Garrett, R., & Sons, Leiston, Suffolk ... ...

Looking Glass Manufacturers—
Robinson, J. B., 31, Moor Lane, E.C.... C

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Robertson & Orchar, Dundee

Lubricants—
Bremner, J. A., & Co., Manchester ... ...
Fleming, A. B., & Co., Edinburgh ... ...
Nobel Bros., Petersburg ...

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Magnesia—
Henry, T. & W., East Street, St. Peters, Manchester ...

Manures (Chemical)—
Anglo-Continental (late Ohlendorff's) Guano Works, The, London, E.C. ... ...
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd. Leith ... ...
Hedworth Barium Co., Ltd., Newcastle ... ...
Thomson, Wm., & Sons, Ltd., Clovenfords by Galashiels (for Vines & Plants) ...
United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Marble and Granite Merchant and Importer—
Fabbricotti, B., Pimlico, London, S.W. ... ...

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Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...
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King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
The Atlas Metal & Alloys Co., Ltd., 52, Queen Victoria Street, E.C. ...

Metal Polish—
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Military and Naval Ornaments—
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Mill Engineers—
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Wigan Coal & Iron Co., Ltd., Wigan (Producers of Best House, Gas and Steam Coals, and Wigan Cannel)

Mineral Waters—
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Mining Lamps (all classes)—
Cooke, Joseph, & Son (Belmont Passage), 203, Lawley Street, Birmingham ... ...

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Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C....

Mosaic and Tiles Decoration—
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Night Lights—
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Oar Manufacturers—
Gardner, Joseph, & Sons, Bootle, Liverpool ... ...

Oilcake (Linseed and Cotton)—
Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd. Leith, N.B. ... ...

Oil Cans—
Bladon, T. E., 99 & 100, Northwood Street, Birmingham; London address, 4, Bury Street, St. Mary Axe, E.C. ... ...
Kaye, Joseph, & Sons, Ltd., Leeds ... ...

Oil Engines—
Gardner, L., & Sons, Ltd., Manchester ... ...
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Oil Refiners, Distillers, & Mfrs.—
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Fleming, A. B., & Co., Ltd., Edinburgh... ... ...
Light, James, & Son, Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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Parquet Flooring—
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Photographic Process—
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Pianos, Organs, and Small Instruments—
Riley's on Constitution Hill, Birmingham ... ...

Pickles—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Picks—
Thornton, Geo., & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Pins (Toilet)—
Edridge, Merrett & Co., Ltd., Legge Street, Birmingham

Pistons—
Buckley, W., & Co., Millsands, Sheffield ... .

Plate and Bar Manufacturers—
Butterley Co., Ltd., The, Derby... ... ...

Plate Glass Manufacturers—
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Plate Polish—"Silveret"—
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Plumbago—
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Poles, Telegraph—
Bullers, Ltd., London, E.C...

Porcelain Paint—
Szerelmey & Co., London, S.E. ... ...

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Humphreys, Ltd., Knightsbridge, London, S.W. ...

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Lincoln and Midland Counties Drug Co., Lincoln (Clarke's Blood Mixture)..
Scott & Bowne, Ltd., London E.C. (Scott's Emulsion of Pure Cod Liver Oil)... ...

Provision Merchants (Wholesale and Export)—
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Gunson, Geo., Sons & Co. Liverpool ... ...
MacSimon's Stores, Ltd., Canning Place, Liverpool..
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Provisions (Importers and Exporters)—
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Quilts, Covers, Toiletings, &c.—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Quiltings and Piques—
Johnson, J., Hodgkinson & Pearson, Ltd., Manchester

Railway Appliances—
Saxby & Farmer, Ltd., Canterbury Road, London, N.W. (Railway Signals, &c.) ... ...

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Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Heath Mill Lane, Birmingham ... ...

Railway Lamp Lenses—
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Rawle & Son, 231 and 232, Blackfriars Road, London, S.E. ... ...

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Hobbs, Hart, & Co., Ltd., London, N. ... ...
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Sanitary Appliances—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Drain Pipes and Traps, Sanitary Earthenware, W.C. Basins, Urinals, and Washdown Closets, Enamelled Sinks) ... ...

Sanitary Paints—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...

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Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock ... ...

Sauce Manufacturers—
Cocks, Chas., & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

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Sheep Deep (Nicotine)—
Bush, W. J., & Co., Ltd., Ash Grove, Hackney, E....

Sheep Dip Manufacturers—
Cooper, Wm., & Nephews, Berkhamsted, Makers of the Original Powder Dip...

Sheep Shearing Machines—
Cooper, Wm., & Nephews, 177, Illinois Street, Chicago, and Berkhamsted, England

Sheers—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Shipbuilders—
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...

Shipping Agents—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

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Price's Patent Candle Co., Ltd., London, S.W. ... ...
Tennant, Charles, & Co., Glasgow ... ...

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Soap Stone—

Anglo-Italian Talc and Plumbago Mines Co., Ltd., 26, Old Hall Street, Liverpool

Soda—

Brunner, Mond, & Co, Northwich, Cheshire ... ...

United Alkali Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

Spades—

Thornton, George, & Co., Birmingham ... ...

Sponge Cloths, &c.—

Jones, William C., Ltd., Messrs., Manchester... ...

Stamp and Punch Makers—

Pryor, Edward, & Son, Sheffield ... ...

Stationers (Manufacturing and Export)—

Dickinson, John, & Co., Ltd., London, E.C. 1

Stay Busk Manufacturers—

Crookes, Roberts & Co., Argus Works, Sheffield ...

Steam Boilers—

Hartley & Sugden, Halifax...

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United Alkali Co., Ltd. Liverpool ... ...

Sulphuric Acid Manufacturers—

Blythe, Wm., & Co., Ltd., Church, Lancs. ... ...

Cunningham, J. & J., Ltd. Leith ... ...

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Ilford Urban District Council.
Dust Destructor.

The above Council invites tenders for the erection of a Dust Destructor of Six Cells, Flues, Dust Chamber and Boilers.

Full particulars of the scheme may be obtained on application to Mr. Herbert Shaw, A.M.INST.C.E., Engineer and Surveyor to the Council, at the Town Hall, Ilford, Essex, during the usual office hours, on payment of a deposit of £5 5s., which will be returned on receipt by the Council of a *bona fide* tender.

Sealed tenders, endorsed "Tender for Dust Destructor," are to be addressed and sent to the undersigned here on or before noon on Monday, the 26th day of June, 1905.

The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

JOHN W. BENTON,
Clerk to the Council.

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STOCKPORT.—Iron castings, &c., for the Corporation Tramways. The Tramways Manager, 1, Brown Street, Heaton Lane, Stockport.

SWANSEA.—June 20th.—Iron and steel stores, for the Graigola Merthyr Company, Limited. The Company's Offices.

ILFORD.—June 26th.—Erection of a dust destructor of six cells, viz., cells, flues, dust chamber, and boilers, for the Ilford Urban District Council. Mr. Herbert Shaw, A.M.I.C.E., engineer and surveyor, Town Hall, Ilford, Essex. (Fee, £5 5s., returnable.)

LONDON, W.—June 26th.—Supply and erection of the following plant for the Great Western Railway Company:—(Specification 18) pipework, feed and other pumps, tanks, feed heaters, water-softening, and oil-separating plant, &c. Messrs. Kennedy and Jenkin, 17, Victoria Street, London, S.W. (Fee, £2 2s. for each specification, returnable.)

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Tenders, endorsed "Tender for Uniforms, &c." to be delivered to my office not later than 4 o'clock p.m. on Monday, June 19, 1905.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

The contractor will be required to enter into a bond, with two sureties, for the due performance of the contract, and no work will be ordered under the contract until such bond has been duly executed.

The contractor whose tender is accepted, and with whom a contract is entered into, will be required to pay direct to all workpeople employed in connection with this contract the rate of wages and observe the hours of labour specified in the schedule attached to the form of tender. In the event of any breach of such agreement the Council will enforce the penalty clause in its entirety.

(By order of the Council)
FRED. E. HILLEARY,
Town Hall, West Ham, E. Town Clerk.
May, 1905.

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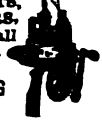

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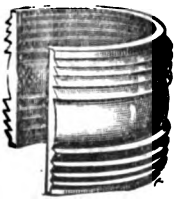

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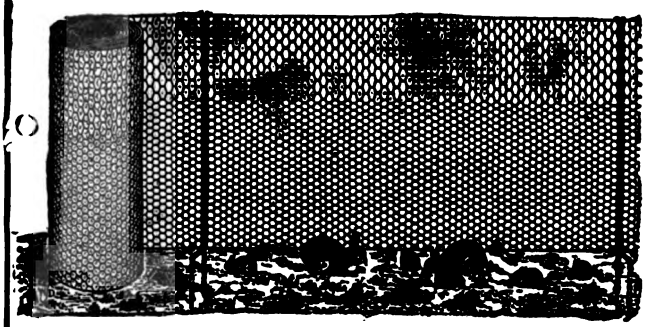

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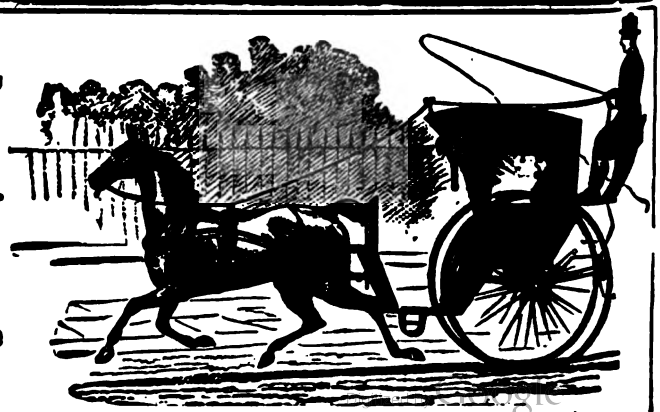

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLIX.] June 15, 1905. [No. 446

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 525.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where there are at present on view, among other exhibits, samples of iron ore received from H.M. Consuls at the following places, viz.:—Wimille (near Boulogne), Corsica, Oporto, Brussa (Asia Minor), Rubigo near Scutari (Albania), Adis Ababa and Harrar (Abyssinia), Copiapo (Chile), Guadeloupe, Tegucigalpa (Honduras), Peru, Muscat (Arabia), and Wuhu (China), to illustrate their reports, which are among those embodied in the publication just issued by the Board of Trade on "Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries" (see p. 521 of present issue); samples of Chinese-made footwear (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 6th April, pp. 10-11; and also samples of copper from the Besshi copper mine in Japan (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 23rd March last, p. 560).

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 526.

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OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

Air Compressor, Boiler Plates, &c.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of:—

1. Air compressor, electrically driven, with motor complete,
2. Steel plates for boilers, &c.,
3. Rolled material for engines and boilers,

as per specifications to be seen at the Company's offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Air Compressor with Motor," or as the case may be, not later than noon, on Wednesday, the 21st June.

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

Enquiries relating to British Indian Trade.

The following enquiries have been received at the India Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A Scotch firm of steel and steel wire manufacturers are desirous of establishing an agency in Calcutta and Bombay for the sale of their products, such as aerial tramways, suspension bridges, haulage and winding plant for mines, &c., and for all classes of wire ropes.

A firm of pump and general engineers are desirous of appointing an agent for the sale of their manufactures in Madras and the Madras Presidency.

Note.—For further information relating to the above, application should be made to the India Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—SOUTH AUSTRALIA.

Railway Materials.

Tenders will be received at the Supply and Tender Board Office, Adelaide, up till 3 o'clock p.m. of Wednesday, 9th August, 1905, for the supply of the following materials, delivered in bond, on wharf, Port Adelaide, wharfage to be paid by the contractor:—

30 mild steel boiler plates.

30 best mild steel smokebox tube plates for flanging (five drawings, 1*s.* each).

2 best mild steel firebox back casing plates for flanging.

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Openings for British Trade.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—SOUTH AUSTRALIA—*continued.*

20 best mild steel firebox throat plates for flanging.
14 copper tube plates flanged (three drawings, 1*s.* each).
25 copper wrapping plates.
385 engine and tender tyres (18 drawings, 1*s.* each).
104 best steel straight axles (two drawings, 1*s.* each).
208 cast steel wheel centres (two drawings, 3*s.* each).
258 carriage and waggon tyres (two drawings, 1*s.* each).
20 best steel straight axle forgings (one drawing, 1*s.* 6*d.*).
500 mild steel plates (one drawing, 1*s.*).
60 bars convex iron (one drawing, 1*s.*).
144 smooth surface panel plates.
1 hydraulic swing jib crane (one drawing, 2*s.*).

Specifications may be seen and forms of tender obtained at the above office, and the office of the Chief Mechanical Engineer, Islington, South Australia; specifications may also be seen at the office of the Agent-General for South Australia, in London.

Copies of indent, with specifications complete (15*s.* each) and drawings, may be obtained at the Chief Mechanical Engineer's office, Islington, South Australia.

Date of delivery, as well as the names of manufacturers of the materials tendered for, must be distinctly stated in each tender.

The materials are to be subject to the inspection, test and approval of the Government Inspecting Engineer, in London, or the Chief Mechanical Engineer, in Adelaide.

The expenses of the Inspecting Engineer will be paid by the Agent-General, London (except in cases as specified), who will also advance 75 per cent. on the contract on receipt of bills of lading, insurance policy and the usual shipping documents, accompanied by the certificate of the Inspecting Engineer; and the balance of the contract will be paid in Adelaide or London, at the option of the contractor, upon satisfactory delivery of the materials.

Successful tenderers will be required, within seven days of date of notice of acceptance of tender, to enter into an agreement and make a deposit equal to 5 per cent. of the total value of their accepted tender as security for the due fulfilment of contract.

Tenders should be indorsed "Tender for Railway Materials."

Neither the lowest nor any tender necessarily accepted.

Paper.

Tenders will be received at the Supply and Tender Board Office, Adelaide, up till 3 p.m. of Tuesday, 5th September, 1905, for the supply and delivery at the Education Stores, Grote Street, or such other place in Adelaide as may be directed by the Inspector-General of Schools, of paper as under:—

50 reams each, colors I., II., III., double foolscap, 17 in. by 27 in., weight 32 lbs.

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Openings for British Trade.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—SOUTH AUSTRALIA—*continued.*

25 reams each, colors I., III., IV., double foolscap, 17 in. by 27 in., weight 40 lbs.

1,300 reams super-calendered fine printing; 1,000 reams double foolscap, 27 in. by 17 in., weight 24 lbs.; 300 reams double demy, 22½ in. by 35 in., weight 40 lbs.

150 reams thin transparent, double crown, 30 in. by 20 in., weight 12 lbs.

400 reams cartridge; 200 reams double crown, 30 in. by 20 in., weight 55 lbs.; 100 reams double foolscap, 27 in. by 17 in., weight 42 lbs.; 100 reams double foolscap, 30 in. by 15 in., weight 41 lbs.

Tenderers may quote for any of the above-mentioned items, and the Supply and Tender Board reserve the right to accept a portion or the whole of any tender.

The paper must be packed in cases in the flat, each ream being separately tied up, and be of the specified weight to the ream of 480 sheets, exclusive of string or wrapper; it must also be equal in all respects to the samples to be seen and obtained at the office of the Inspector-General of Schools, Adelaide, where forms of tender and any information may also be obtained. Absolute exactness in size will be insisted on. There must be no variation.

The whole of each description of the paper is to be manufactured in one lot, and delivery will be required in two shipments; the first shipment of one-half of the quantity of each item is to be delivered within eight months from the date of notice of acceptance of tender, and the second shipment of the remaining half within ten months of such date, under a penalty in each case of 2½ per cent. per month, or part of a month, for delay beyond the specified dates.

The paper is to be subject to the approval of the Inspector-General of Schools, whose decision in cases of dispute is to be considered final.

Tenders should be endorsed "Tender for Paper, Education Department."

The successful tenderer will be required, within seven days of date of notice of acceptance, to make a deposit equal to 5 per cent. of the total value of the accepted tender as security for the due fulfilment of contract.

Neither the lowest nor any tender necessarily accepted.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.,** whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

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Openings for British Trade.

Canadian Enquiries.—A Canadian manufacturers' agent, who can supply United Kingdom references, is prepared to represent a manufacturer of box wood, ivory and steel rules, and metallic, steel and linen measuring tapes.

A firm in British Columbia wish to get into communication with manufacturing iron works who would be prepared to purchase cedar pattern wood.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

NATAL.

Railway Construction and Working.

Referring to the notice published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 25th May, pp. 339-40, respecting a call for tenders by the Natal Government for the survey, construction, and equipment, &c., of the proposed Stuartstown Railway, it is to be noted that an announcement appears in the "Natal Goverment Gazette," to the effect that the time up to which tenders will be received has been extended from 17th July to 17th August next.

DENMARK.

Tea.

H.M. Consul at Copenhagen (Captain J. Boyle) says in his recent report that the quantity of tea, Indian and China, consumed in Denmark during 1904 was 1,023,000 lbs. against 1,034,000 lbs. in 1903. If one compares this amount with consumption in 1902 (999,900 lbs.) there appears an increase. It is said that there will be a further increase during the next few years, and this is especially due to the temperance movement, which appears to have taken a very firm hold all over the country. About 20 per cent. of all tea, says Captain Boyle, is Ceylon and Indian. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,392.)

BELGIUM.

Viaduct Construction.

The "Bulletin Commercial" of 10th June announces that the Belgian State Railways Administration invite tenders, which will be opened on 12th July at the "Bourse de Commerce," Brussels, for the construction of a viaduct, with steel superstructure, at Feluy-Arquennes station. The cost of the first section of the work is estimated at 23,095 frs. (about 923*l.*), and of the second section at 84,353 frs. (about 3,374*l.*). A deposit of 7,500 frs. (about 300*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Further particulars and specifications (No. 105 of 1905, price 40 centimes) may be obtained from "M. de Rudder, Administrateur des voies et travaux, 11, Rue de Louvain, Brussels."

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Openings for British Trade.

FRANCE—NEW CALEDONIA.

Railway Plant.

"La Quinzaine Coloniale" states that M. Charles Jacques, the owner of the Nondoué coal mines has made application for permission to construct a branch railway from Dumbéa to Païta. M. Jacques' scheme will probably be discussed during the next session of the "Conseil Général" of New Caledonia.

FRENCH INDIA—PONDICHERRY.

Public Works.

H.M. Consul at Pondicherry (Lieut.-Col. A. de. C. Rennick) states, in his recent report, that at the Conseil Général last November the Governor of Pondicherry brought to the notice of the meeting the advantages to be derived from the loan of 4,500,000 fr. offered by the French Government for the last time to carry out certain important works, amongst others the railway which is to unite that town to Cuddalore in a direct line. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,389.)

SPAIN.

Brass and Aluminium Postal Boxes.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 10th June contains a notice to the effect that tenders, which will be opened on 17th July, will be received until 11th July, at the General Registry of Posts, Madrid, and at the offices of the Civil Government of the provinces of Barcelona and Viscaya, for the supply of 1,300 brass postal boxes and 200 aluminium postal boxes, fitted with mechanism for indicating the hours for collecting letters, at the upset price of 150,000 pesetas (about 4,518*l.*). Conditions, &c., are on view at the above-mentioned offices. A deposit of 5 per cent. of the value of the goods at the upset price is required to qualify any tender.

ITALY.

Water-power Plant.

The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) of 8th June states that the Prefect of Caserta has granted Messrs. B. & L. Viscogliosi, of the commune of Isola del Liri, an appropriation of water from the river Liri for the production of motive power.

MEXICO.

Gas Engines.

H.M. Consul at Mexico City (Mr. L. Jerome) sends a cutting from the "Mexican Herald," from which it appears that the use of gas producers and gas engines in the mining and smelting industries of Mexico is increasing rapidly. Their adoption is favoured owing to the high cost of fuel.

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Openings for British Trade.

MEXICO—*continued.*

Water Works.

Mr. Jerome sends another cutting from the same paper announcing a scheme for furnishing Guadalajara with a new supply of pure water. About 500,000 dols. is to be spent on a large storage basin of two kilometres diameter, and on filters. No pumping machinery is required. Particulars are to be had from the Governor of the State of Jalisco, Guadalajara, Mexico.

Hydro-Electric Plant.

From the same source it is learned that, on account of the great mining activity in the Temascaltepec and Sultepec districts, the Toluca Electric Light and Power Company have decided to develop a water power concession in the Rio Verde, at the former town. It is expected that the plant will be in operation before the end of the year.

Public Works.

A further cutting from the "Mexican Herald," furnished by Mr. Jerome, announces the raising of a loan of 200,000 dols. by the City Council of Mazatlan, destined to be spent on some important public works and on the embellishment of the town.

Hydro-electric Plant.

The Mexican "Diario Oficial" of 14th May notifies an application by Señor Rafael Muciño Arroyo for the appropriation of 800 litres of water per second from the rivers Santiago Atlaximacayan, San Francisco and Santa Cruz, in the State of Mexico, for the production of motive power.

The "Diario" of 20th May notifies a similar application by Señor Alberto Stein, representing Señor Lic. Miguel A. López, for an appropriation of 60,000 litres of water per second from the river Yaqui, in the State of Sonora.

ARGENTINA.

Rice Milling and Cleaning Machinery.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul at Buenos Aires (Mr. A. C. Ross) that enquiry has been made at his Consulate for machinery for milling and cleaning rice. The import of rice in bulk into Buenos Aires in 1904, he says, was 4,000 tons. Some rice is grown in the north of the Republic.

Vacuum Cleaner.

An enquiry has also been received for a vacuum cleaner, which, when required, can convey itself and so save horse traction.

Communications should be addressed to H.M. Consul, Buenos Aires.

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Openings for British Trade.

BOLIVIA.

Gas Engines.

The British Vice-Consul at Oruro (Mr. J. Ramsay Smith) reports that during the past year or two anthracite gas engines have been brought from Germany to take the place of steam engines on account of the scarcity of native fuel. As an ordinary fuel, coal is out of the question as it costs 8*l.* per ton. The tin mines are all from 6 to 50 miles from the railway. The carts to carry the production of the mines come from Chile and the coaches from the United States.

Tools.

Hammers, shovels and picks are mostly of German and North American manufacture, as also are hand cars and steel rails. This is due to the fact that there are at Oruro no direct importers of these articles. If the British article is required it is bought from some firm in Valparaiso. For example, steel rails from Chile cost, placed here 8*s.* 6*d.* per metre, whereas the same article imported direct from Germany by German merchants is sold at 6*s.* 6*d.* Spare shoes and dies for stamp batteries are British, but lately other offers have been made to supply them.

Mining Machinery.

During the present boom in tin mining all kinds of labour-saving machinery and appliances have been introduced to render the work as automatic as possible, but much remains to be done in this line.

Articles in Demand.

The British Vice-Consul at Sucre (Mr. E. F. Moore) gives in his report for 1904 figures of imports through Antofagasta to Sucre Potosi and Oruro of articles in which the United Kingdom is far behind its competitors, namely:—Refined sugar, hosiery, iron manufactures, keys, bolts, padlocks, tools and general hardware, machinery, drugs and chemicals, and tinned provisions, though he considers something could be done if once a good opening was effected.

He goes on to say: "Much might be done in several branches of comparatively small sale at present, where the superiority of British-made articles once established would make them a necessity. I should especially recommend the following as examples, the importation of which must increase on an ever augmenting scale in the near future:—Arms (cheap and serviceable), agricultural and farm implements, butter and ice-making machines, kitchen utensils, tools (mining and otherwise), paper (writing, fancy and printing), educational publications and maps (in Spanish), portable printing presses and hand looms, toys (novel and attractive), watches, confectionery, chinaware, labour-saving devices of every class, &c."

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Openings for British Trade.

BOLIVIA—*continued.*

Railway Material.

Mr. Moore states that no tenders are invited yet for contracts of railway material; this would be quite premature. But in the interest of British trade he recommends manufacturers to keep an eye on this market from now, especially as the Commission entrusted with the surveying of the most convenient routes is entirely American, and they are sure to influence the granting of contracts in favour of their own countrymen. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,388.)

LISTS OF POSSIBLE BUYERS OF GOODS ABROAD.

BULGARIA.

The Board of Trade receive from time to time, from His Majesty's representatives in foreign countries and from their correspondents in the Colonies, lists of dealers and importers likely to purchase British goods. These lists may be consulted free of charge by British manufacturers and traders at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

Attention is called to a revised list which has recently been prepared, containing names supplied by His Majesty's Consular Officers in Bulgaria, and dealing with the following towns, viz., Sofia, Philippopolis, Bourgas, Siiven, Kazanlik, Karlovo, Roustchouk, and Varna.

The classes of goods dealt with in some or all of these lists are ironmongery and hardware, paints, glass, indiarubber goods, textile goods, agricultural machinery, leather wares, colonial produce, &c.

Similar notices in regard to lists of dealers in Belgium and Greece appear on p. 205 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 2nd February, and on p. 202 of the "Journal" of 4th May, whilst a notice in regard to buyers of agricultural implements, watches, and certain other articles in various places abroad appears on p. 391 of the issue of the 1st June.

No responsibility is accepted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch or its correspondents or His Majesty's representatives abroad in respect of the financial standing of any firms or individuals that may be named in these lists, nor are the lists necessarily exhaustive.

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BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Copenhagen.—As it continuously happens that British commercial travellers arriving in Denmark are not in possession of the certificates required by the Danish Customs authorities, so that considerable time is wasted later on in procuring these certificates, H.M. Consul at Copenhagen (Capt. J. Boyle) points out, in his report for 1904, that to obtain a traveller's licence it is absolutely necessary that the traveller should bring with him a declaration, signed by one of the members of the firm, before a notary public, stating that he is the firm's travelling representative, and that the notary's signature should be attested by one of the Danish Consular officers residing in the United Kingdom. If any of these signatures are omitted the Danish Customs authorities will not recognise the certificate as entitling the traveller to obtain a licence, and he will be obliged to deposit 64 kr. (3*l.* 10*s.*), which are refunded to him if he produces the proper certificate within 28 days. Even when a partner of a firm travels, or if the owner of a business travels himself, he must appear before a notary public and sign a declaration, which must afterwards be endorsed by a Danish Consul. A British passport, letters or personal acquaintance with customers is not considered any proof. To avoid waste of time and money it will therefore be necessary to attend to these stringent rules, which were issued in a Decree of 8th June, 1839. In his report for 1903 (Annual Series, 3,324), Capt. Boyle gave full information as to these matters, which are of considerable importance. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,392.)

Nice.—In his report for 1904 on the trade of Nice, H.M. Consul at that port (Mr. A. McMillan) states that it is a pleasure to be able to note a practical method adopted by a British firm of obviating the delays, unavoidable of course to some extent, that occur in carrying out Custom-house formalities. The firm referred to label the cases which contain the commodities they deal in with a declaration in French weights of the amount of their contents. The cases thus labelled by a firm of known respectability are ordinarily passed through the Custom-house without being opened, and time and trouble are thus saved. There are other British firms, not equally practical in their methods, who make frequent changes in the shape and size and carrying capacity of their bottles, tins and cases, with the result of making the formalities at Custom-houses a matter of greater trouble and delay than need be. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,383.)

Hayti.—H.M. Consul-General at Port-au-Prince (Mr. A. G. Vansittart) in his report for 1904, remarks that business in Hayti is generally transacted with European manufacturers and with the United States through commission houses. European credit appears to be six months; American credit two or three months. No credit agencies exist.

The premium on gold during the year 1904 fluctuated between a minimum of 154 per cent. in January, and a maximum of 496

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British Trade Abroad.

per cent. in December, the average for the year being 364½ per cent., as compared with 158 per cent. in 1903, 138½ per cent. in 1902, and 123¾ per cent. in 1901. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,385.)

Honduras.—H.M. Consul at Truxillo (Mr. A. E. Melhado) calls attention, in his annual report, to the activity of commercial travellers from the United States of America, who, he says, are constantly arriving with samples of cotton goods, bread-stuffs and provisions, hardware, cordage and boots. It often happens that the merchant, who has no idea of buying goods, is induced after a visit to the sample room to make a purchase.

Mr. Melhado adds:—"It seems to me a pity that British firms do not in some way show their samples in this part of the world, as it would greatly assist buyers and would increase trade to a considerable extent. Perhaps it may be somewhat out of the way to send a traveller, but, on the other hand, agents could be named and the samples sent to them." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,371.)

La Paz.—The following hints to traders in Bolivia are taken from the report for 1904 (Foreign Office, Annual Series, 3,388), by H.M. Consul at La Paz (Mr. G. Harrison):—

"As the Government has the firm intention to develop the country by the construction of railways, in which event the necessary material would be needed, this will be an opportunity for the furtherance of trade, and I would recommend all such as are interested to keep a close watch on what is going on . . . . . .

"British manufacturers would do well to send their catalogues in the Spanish language, indicating weights, measures, prices, discounts and every possible detail, as is done by competing countries. Another very important step that should be taken by manufacturers of mining machinery and tools of every description is that of the establishment of depôts or agencies at Oruro, the most important mining centre, and at Antofagasta, the port for same. German firms have representatives at the above-mentioned places, and I may say that they supply the most immediate needs of the mines, thus securing a good portion of the trade.

"It is also desirable that all machinery should be made in sections in order to facilitate its transport by mule back, as the roads in the country are very rough and hilly, and consequently do not permit the traffic of carts. The weight of any package should not exceed 350 lbs.

"Mining and all other machinery comes into the country free of duties."

Hankow.—H.M. Consul-General at Hankow (Mr. E. D. H. Fraser, C.M.G.), in his report for 1904, states that a few of the smaller merchants have tried to take a direct share in the import

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British Trade Abroad.

trade by means of shops in the native town, but such retail enterprise cannot affect the practical surrender of this business in all articles but sugar and kerosene to the Chinese, who have learned to watch exchange and scan market reports, and so to eliminate the foreign middleman in imports as they will gradually dispense with him in exports. The objection to this development is that it deprives foreign and especially British trade of that protection against arbitrary exaction for which the treaties were designed.

Further on in his report, Mr. Fraser says that the Chinese have acquired enough knowledge of trade abroad to raise prices to the full extent exchange alterations justify, and to take full advantage of the competition between foreign firms; but they do not seem yet to have realised that China has not the monopoly of any of the staple exports, and that greed for high prices is apt to kill the local demand, especially when coupled with false packing.

The dangers of the compradore system have been exemplified in the case of two large German exporting firms. The foreigner refusing to pay the dealers over again for produce settled with the defaulting compradore, the native dealers established a strict boycott and showed a tendency to resort to violence. After much discussion the German Consul drew up an agreement with the native authorities providing for the advance of money to meet pressing liabilities by the firms and the mandarins, who are to be repaid by the accumulation of the regular compradore commission on future dealings. The system of dealing in such exports as hides and sesamum seeds by contracting for future delivery is held by many to be the cause of compradore troubles, and it is proposed to insist on spot cargo. A stable and permanent combination of foreign buyers to effect this change seems, however, beyond the bounds of probability, even if the Chinese would give up the present system of sending agents with advances up country. The remedy for compradore failures is after all in the hands of the dealers, who can always insist on full payment for cargo delivered and passed in the foreigner's godown, for there are enough resident buyers to prevent such insistence leading to the goods being thrown back on the seller. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,386.)

Japan.—The "Bollettino delle Finanze" (Rome) states that exporters who wish to obtain a footing on the Japanese market would do well to make use of the commercial museums established in that country, of which there are two: one at Tokio, entitled Schoin Chinretsuhan; the other at Osaka, entitled Schoin Chinretsu-Sho. The latter establishment is particularly well adapted for the display of raw materials. Foreign goods are admitted to both museums free of charge, on application to the Japanese Minister of Commerce. Samples of the goods it is desired to exhibit should be forwarded with the application.

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FOREIGN TRADE OF INDIA IN 1904.

The Board of Trade have received from the India Office the following statement showing the value of Indian (Foreign* Sea-borne) Import and Export Trade (not including Government transactions) for the calendar year 1904. The figures for 1903 are added for purposes of comparison.

Imports.

—	1903.	1904.
	£	£
I. Live animals, food and drink, and narcotics :—		
(a) Live animals...	395,221	332,569
(b) Food and drink	7,373,160	8,561,271
(c) Narcotics (opium and tobacco)	329,891	371,488
Total Class I.	8,098,272	9,265,328
II. Raw materials :—		
(a) Textile (including twist and yarn) ...	1,795,127	2,444,451
(b) Metals	729,556	780,738
(c) Other (including chemicals and drugs) ...	2,822,920	2,670,229
Total Class II.	5,347,603	5,895,418
III. Manufactured articles :		
(a) Textile	22,768,397	27,981,178
(b) Metals (including hardware and cutlery)..	6,546,939	7,601,495
(c) Other (including machinery, railway material, dyes and oils)	11,924,088	12,909,823
Total Class III.	41,239,424	48,492,496
IV. Coin and bullion :		
(a) Gold	12,933,669	15,484,810
(b) Silver...	6,190,028	8,568,353
Total Class IV.	19,123,697	24,053,163
Total imports	73,808,996	87,706,405

Exports (including Re-exports of Foreign Goods).

—	1903.	1904.
	£	£
I. Live animals, food and drink, and narcotics :—		
(a) Live animals	142,985	131,753
(b) Food and drink	29,646,167	34,452,465
(c) Narcotics (opium and tobacco)	6,581,093	7,417,024
Total, Class I.	36,370,245	42,001,242
II. Raw materials :—		
(a) Textile	22,067,925	25,281,963
(b) Metals	306,898	248,222
(c) Other (including chemicals and drugs) ...	17,159,737	17,377,582
Total, Class II.	39,534,560	42,907,767
III. Manufactured articles :—		
(a) Textile (including twist and yarn) ...	15,053,583	14,755,855
(b) Metals (including hardware and cutlery).	126,994	135,879
(c) Other (including machinery, railway material, dyes, and oils)	6,626,783	7,384,467
Total, Class III....	21,807,360	22,276.201
IV. Coin and bullion :—		
(a) Gold	2,494,316	2,476,286
(b) Silver...	1,891,428	3,804,054
Total, Class IV.	4,385,744	6,280,340
Total exports	102,097,909	113,465,550

* The coasting trade between Indian seaports is not included in this statement, nor is the trade across the land frontier of India.

N.B.—The rupees are converted into sterling at Rs. 15 per £, the ratio fixed by the Indian Coinage Act of 1899 as the rate at which gold coins shall be legal tender in India.

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EXPORT TRADE OF CAPE COLONY.

In continuation of the Notice on pp. 450-51 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for the 8th June, the following table, showing the value of the goods exported from Cape Colony during the three months ended 31st March, 1904 and 1905, has been compiled from statistics published in the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of the 19th May:—

Exports from Cape Colony.

Principal and other Articles.	Three Months ended 31st March.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Gold (raw)	3,691,000	4,804,000
Diamonds	1,215,000	1,201,000
Wool (washed, scoured, and in the grease) ...	537,000	465,000
Ostrich feathers	246,000	256,000
Copper ore	141,000	189,000
Hides and skins	109,000	135,000
Hair, Angora	47,000	25,000
All other articles of merchandise	48,000	582,000
Total merchandise ... £	6,034,000	7,657,000
Imported goods, re-exported	94,000	124,000
Specie	669,000	3,000
Grand total, exports ... £	6,797,000	7,784,000

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT OF EGYPT.

The following particulars, which illustrate the commercial and industrial development of Egypt in recent years, are based on information contained in the official trade statistics of that country, and in Lord Cromer's report for the year 1904 [Cd. 2,409.]

Trade.—Taking first the imports into Egypt, the following table, the figures in which have been taken from the official report of the Egyptian Customs, shows the value of merchandise (excluding tobacco, tombac, and cigars) imported from the United Kingdom and British Possessions, France, Turkey, Austria-Hungary, Germany, Italy, Russia, Belgium, and other countries in each of the years 1900-1904 inclusive:—

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Commercial and Industrial Development of Egypt.

Imports into Egypt (excluding Tobacco, Tombac, and Cigars).

From—	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£E.	£E.	£E.	£E.	£E.
United Kingdom ...	5,296,000	5,563,000	5,442,000	5,914,000	6,985,000
British Possessions in the Mediterranean ...	137,000	124,000	100,000	132,000	234,000
British Possessions in the East	696,000	882,000	794,000	817,000	968,000
Turkey	1,783,000	1,855,000	1,683,000	2,007,000	2,432,000
France and French Possessions in the Mediterranean ...	1,315,000	1,406,000	1,361,000	1,688,000	1,949,000
Austria-Hungary ...	860,000	966,000	1,087,000	1,164,000	1,421,000
Belgium	494,000	498,000	471,000	524,000	747,000
Italy	661,000	801,000	805,000	891,000	1,166,000
Russia	609,000	612,000	553,000	606,000	750,000
Germany	486,000	530,000	580,000	742,000	1,019,000
America	289,000	315,000	196,000	238,000	283,000
Other countries... ...	909,000	1,097,000	1,139,000	1,424,000	1,935,000
Total imports ...	13,535,000	14,649,000	14,211,000	16,147,000	19,889,000

NOTE.—£E = 1*l.* 0*s.* 6¼*d.* (sterling).

A notable feature in the above table is the constant rise in the value of the imports from the United Kingdom until 1902, when a slight decline took place. This, however, was more than compensated for by an increase in 1903 of 472,000*l.* Last year's figures show an increase over 1903 of 1,071,000*l.*

A further examination of the trade statistics in Egypt for the years 1900 and 1904 shows the categories in which this improvement in the trade of the United Kingdom has principally occurred. It is interesting at the same time to note the condition of the imports from France in the same articles:—

Principal Articles Imported into Egypt from the United Kingdom and France.

Principal Articles.	From United Kingdom.		From France and Algeria.	
	1900.	1904.	1900.	1904.
	£E.	£E.	£E.	£E.
Articles of the textile industry ...	2,488,000	3,629,000	334,000	480,000
Wood and coal	1,139,000	1,017,000	38,000	72,000
Metals and metal manufactures ...	1,078,000	1,497,000	144,000	260,000
Spirits, beverages and oils	125,000	147,000	107,000	152,000
Earthenware and glassware... ...	114,000	49,000	70,000	86,000
Cereals, flours, &c.	70,000	31,000	288,000	489,000
Colonial produce and drugs... ...	52,000	71,000	46,000	25,000

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Commercial and Industrial Development of Egypt.

With regard to the export trade, the following table shows the value of the exports of merchandise from Egypt in each of the years 1900–1904, distinguishing principal countries of destination:—

Exports from Egypt *(excluding Cigarettes).*

To—	1900.	1901.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£E	£E	£E	£E	£E
United Kingdom ...	9,142,000	8,014,000	9,215,000	10,085,000	10,900,000
British Possessions in the Mediterranean ...	4,000	7,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
British Possessions in the East	188,000	107,000	90,000	198,000	160,000
France and French Possessions in the Mediterranean ...	1,430,000	1,263,000	1,381,000	1,679,000	1,613,000
America	1,036,000	1,016,000	1,178,000	926,000	689,000
Russia	1,210,000	1,743,000	1,484,000	1,247,000	1,340,000
Germany	901,000	778,000	1,194,000	1,348,000	1,556,000
Austria-Hungary ...	642,000	628,000	708,000	885,000	901,000
Italy	601,000	550,000	635,000	713,000	957,000
Switzerland	576,000	588,000	595,000	773,000	763,000
Spain	375,000	455,000	450,000	479,000	509,000
Turkey	290,000	313,000	322,000	327,000	399,000
Other countries... ...	372,000	268,000	361,000	452,000	525,000
Total exports ...	16,767,000	15,730,000	17,617,000	19,116,000	20,316,000

NOTE.—£E = £1 0*s.* 6¼*d.* (sterling).

In 1900 the United Kingdom held 54·5 per cent. of the total export trade of Egypt; in 1901 her share was 50·9 per cent.; in 1902, 52·3 per cent.; in 1903, 52·7 per cent.; and in 1904, 53·6 per cent. The principal articles exported from Egypt are raw cotton, cotton-seed, and sugar.

Commenting on last year's trade statistics, Lord Cromer in his annual report writes:—

"The trade statistics for 1904 are very remarkable. Exclusive of tobacco, the total value of the imports was £E 19,889,000, or £E 3,742,000 more than in 1903; and of the exports, £E 20,316,000, or £E 1,200,000 more than in 1903. About 40 per cent. of the increase in the imports occurred during the last two months of the year.

"The main reasons for the large increase in the imports are:—

"1. That in 1903 there was a somewhat exceptionally good cotton crop, following on a succession of fairly good years.

"2. That the feeling of renewed security, engendered by the conclusion of the Anglo-French Agreement, attracted European capital to the country.

"3. That the Soudan tends to become every year a more important factor in the development of Egyptian trade.

"The increase in the exports is almost wholly due to cotton."

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Commercial and Industrial Development of Egypt.

Railways.—With regard to railways, Lord Cromer states that the competition of the river, and possibly, although to a less extent, that of the light railways, has necessitated a reduction of rates on the State lines. The average amount earned for carrying one ton of goods in 1903 was P. T. 42·5 (Turkish piastre = 2·46*d.*). In 1904, it was only P. T. 39·6, a decrease of about P. T. 3.* Nevertheless, the net railway revenue continues to rise. It amounted to £E 1,244,000 in 1904, as against £E 1,064,000 in 1903. The working expenses were 54·15 per cent. of the gross earnings in 1903, and 52·25 per cent. in 1904. Lord Cromer adds:—"I venture to think that this very satisfactory result—although it is, without doubt, due to some extent to the good cotton crop of 1903–04—affords a complete justification of the liberal policy which was adopted."

About £E 400,000 was spent on capital account in 1904. Of this sum, nearly £E 100,000 was spent on carriages and waggons; £E 97,000 on the Port Said line; £E 89,000 on improvements at the principal stations; nearly £E 12,000 on dwellings for employés—chiefly platelayers; and £E 15,000 on signalling and safety appliances.

Rolling stock to the value of £E 316,000 was ordered in the course of last year. Additional orders, to the value of £E 75,000, were given last January. Preparations are being made to issue still further orders.

Regarding **light railways**, Lord Cromer's report states that the total length now open for traffic in Egypt is 1,107 kiloms. These are worked by three Companies, viz.:—

	Kiloms.
The Delta Company	830
The "Compagnie de la Basse-Egypte" ...	109
The Fayoum Company	168
Total ...	1,107 or 687 miles.

In spite of the cattle plague and the suppression of the annual fairs ("moulids"), which must have adversely affected the traffic on all the lines, the receipts of all these companies during 1904 showed a marked increase over those of the previous year.

General.—The progress of Egypt's commercial development in the last 20 years has been most marked. In spite of a great fall in prices, the value of the imports has increased from about £E 8,000,000 in 1884 to nearly £E 20,000,000 in 1904. During the same period, the value of the exports has grown from about £E 13,000,000 to over £E 20,000,000. The cotton crop, which, 20 years ago, generally amounted to between 2,500,000 and 3,000,000 cantars, now varies from 5,500,000 to 6,500,000 cantars.

* This reduction may also possibly be in some degree due to reduced average distance.

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Commercial and Industrial Development of Egypt.

In spite of a reduction of taxation the revenue of 1904 was £E 13,906,000, being the largest amount ever collected in one year. The expenditure, including payments into the General Reserve and the Conversion Economies Funds, amounted to £E 12,700,000. There was, therefore, a surplus of £E 1,206,000.

The great wealth of Egypt lies in her agricultural resources—cotton, oil seeds, sugar, and other crops. These, in turn, depend on the Nile flood. With the Nile regulated and controlled by the immense system of reservoirs and dams, with a fellaheen freed from excessive taxation, and with a network of light railways rendering the produce of the country accessible to foreign markets, the prosperity of Egypt is placed on a more solid basis than in the past.

Cantar = 99·05 lbs. avoirdupois.

SHIPPING THROUGH THE DANUBE IN 1904.

The following table, showing the number and tonnage of vessels of each nationality which cleared from the Danube in 1904, with comparative figures for 1903, is extracted from the official statistics issued by the European Commission of the Danube:—

—	1903.		1904.	
	No. cleared.	Tonnage.	No. cleared.	Tonnage.
Germany	44	53,238	29	38,770
Austria-Hungary	144	282,271	109	194,553
Belgium	13	21,153	10	15,919
Bulgaria	19	3,532	12	1,495
Denmark	6	10,042	3	5,934
Spain	5	11,319	—	—
France	20	30,031	16	22,195
United Kingdom	384	759,605	248	498,477
Greece	357	561,927	262	404,516
Holland	10	18,990	20	35,055
Italy	84	132,478	79	139,195
Norway	5	9,452	—	—
Roumania	25	35,631	26	43,779
Russia	116	54,936	47	36,684
Samos	1	399	—	—
Sweden	2	3,254	—	—
Turkey	179	54,686	148	40,482
Total	1,414	2,042,994	1,009	1,477,054

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Shipping through the Danube in 1904.

In explaining the decrease in British shipping, disclosed in the foregoing table, H.M. Consul-General at Galatz (Lieut.-Col. H. Trotter, C.B.) points out that the amount of shipping required for exports from the Danube varies directly with the amount of cereals available for exportation. This is comprised of two principal elements: (1) maize, the bulk of which is exported in the year following its production, and (2) wheat, barley, and other crops, the greater part of which is exported in the year of production. In 1904 the out-turn of maize was the lowest on record, and its export was prohibited by Government Decree on and after the 1st August, 1904. The wheat crop of 1904 was also deficient. The combined shortage has produced the considerable decrease in shipping shown.

PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

Proposed Increase of Import Duty on Spirits for Consumption.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from their Correspondent at Cape Town, a communication to the effect that there is every possibility of the duty on spirits (classed under item 30 of the Customs Union Tariff) being increased by 6*s*. per gallon when imported for consumption within Cape Colony for the purpose of countervailing the excise duty imposed therein.

It is further notified that the High Commissioner has informed the Cape Government that the Governments of the Transvaal, Orange River Colony, and Southern Rhodesia are agreeable to the imposition of the additional duty of 6*s*. per gallon at Cape ports on the understanding that they shall not be responsible for the levying of such extra duty for spirits imported for consumption in other Colonies of the Union. Spirits destined for these Colonies will still pay a duty of 15*s*. per gallon only.

Natal has not yet concurred in the agreement, but in the event of such agreement the additional duty will, it is anticipated, come into operation forthwith.

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TARIFF CHANGES

AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Demijohns of Spirit Exported or Transhipped—Consular Certificates of Landing Dispensed with.

The Commissioners of Customs have issued a General Order (No. 43 of 1905) announcing that, with the concurrence of the Commissioners of Inland Revenue, they have decided to dispense with the production of Consular certificates of landing in discharge of bonds given in respect of jars or bottles of spirit exported uncased. As regards the transhipment of demijohns of foreign spirit, they will require the production of a Consular certificate of landing only in cases where the proper certificate of shipment cannot be given owing to the non-production of the goods to the Revenue officers on board the exporting ship.

In future, therefore, the ordinary certificate of shipment will be sufficient to discharge bonds given in respect of such packages of spirit, whether exported or transhipped.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Regulations affecting Drawbacks.

The "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" for 20th April last contains a notification issued on 14th April, 1905, in accordance with the provisions of Customs Regulation No. 131 providing for a drawback of duty, subject to certain specified conditions, on the undermentioned imported materials used in the manufacture of articles within the Commonwealth, upon the exportation of such manufactured articles, viz., steel wheels fixed to axles within the Commonwealth

Regulations respecting Drawbacks.

A copy of the "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" for 8th April last has been received containing a notice dated 31st March, 1905, extending the drawback allowed under the Notice of 12th September, 1904, on "marble slabs in the rough dressed within the Commonwealth," for a period of six months from 12th March, 1905.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—*continued.*

Duty on Edible Seed Oil.

The same issue of the "Gazette" contains a Notice dated 5th April, 1905, notifying that edible seed oil shall, on importation into the Commonwealth be chargeable with duty as "cotton seed oil."

NOTE.—The duties on cotton seed oil are as follows:—In bulk or otherwise, 2s. per gallon.

BARBADOS.

Amendments to Trade Act of 1891.

The Board of Trade have received, from the Colonial Secretary of Barbados, a copy of the "Trade (Amendment) Act, 1905" (No. 12 of 1905), which was assented to by the Governor of the Colony on 1st May last.

The present Act provides for a drawback of duty paid on constituents of manures mixed in the Island and then exported therefrom. It further enables the Governor-in-Executive Committee to prescribe, by Order, the conditions upon which seeds, plants or berries, or any description of earth, &c., which are likely to introduce plant diseases, may be imported into the Colony.

NORWAY.

Tariff Modifications (*continued from p.* 457 *of last week's "Journal"*).

[Krona = 1*s.* 1¼*d.* Kilog. = 2·2046 lbs.]

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty.	
			Old.	New.
			Kron.	Kron.
453	Mead	Kilog.	0·20	0·30
	Fatty oils—			
Ex 462	Linseed oil, unboiled... ...	"	0·04	0·05
463	Whale oil, train and fish oil...	"	0·01	Free
475	Printing paper (not suitable for writing or drawing purposes)—			
	(*a*) Unglazed (of ground wood pulp)...	"	0·03	0·03
	(*b*) Other; also white, or coloured in the pulp ...	"		0·08
477	Sheathing, insulating, and roofing paper; paper coated or sprinkled with asphalt, tar, glass, sand, slate, emery, or the like ...	"	0·01	0·02
	Press-boards	"	0·01	0·02
479	Paper hangings	"	0·20	0·30

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
			Kron.	Kron.
480	Crochet, knitting, embroidery and similar patterns (journals and periodicals not included); machine-ruled paper, visiting cards, tickets for steamships, &c.; envelopes, merely cut out or gummed, also those lined with tissue; [trade announcements, catalogues, price lists, invoice forms and similar printed forms for business purposes*;] picture frames, with or without glass; paper with lining, &c., of tissue, glazed cardboard and cap peaks thereof; also,—provided they are not subject to higher duties as lithographic wares in three or more colours, &c.—paper cornets, and paper bags and the like, finished cards for photographs, paper serviettes, sample cards and other cards of cardboard covered with paper, on which articles are to be fastened	Kilog.	0·20† 0·15‡	0·25
485	Paper bound or stitched	"	0·30	0·40
	Charts, astronomical charts, land and marine maps, also wall maps for use in schools—			
[256]	Not mounted	"	Free	Free
—	Mounted	"	Not separately mentioned	0·50
489	Lithographic and photographic wares; also copper, steel, or wood-engravings, etchings, photo-lithographs and the like, not elsewhere mentioned, coloured or not, not framed (except those belonging to books and imported therewith)—			
	In one or two colours ...	"	0·50	0·50
	In three or more colours (including oleographs, unframed)	"		2·00
	Books or parts thereof, also periodicals, memoranda, and other printed or written matter, not included under Nos. 479-482 of the Tariff—			
487	Bound, published in Norway.	"	0·30	0·50

* Words in square brackets added in New Tariff.
† Envelopes. ‡ Other.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
	Umbrellas and parasols—		Kron.	Kron.
495	Frames, not covered, with or without sticks	Kilog.	0·80	1·00
502	Pomatum [cosmetics, beard wax]*, fards, [powder, tooth powder, tooth paste, and similar articles for toilet use not elsewhere mentioned]* †	"	1·00	1·50
	Trimmings—			
	1. Of silk, pure, or in combination with other materials—			
503	Braids	"	5·00	6·00
504	Other (except ribbons), [including edgings and ornamental lace work]*	"	8·00	9·00
	2. Of other materials—			
505	Braids	"	1·60	2·00

* Words in square brackets added in New Tariff.
† Including weight of immediate packing.

(*To be concluded*).

GERMANY.

Coarsely ground Cork Waste.—Revised Decision.

With reference to the decision of the Hamburg Customs Authorities, reported at p. 546 of the "Journal" for the 23rd March, according to which coarsely ground cork waste prepared for use in the manufacture of cork goods was to pay duty under No. 13 (*d*) of the German Customs Tariff, at the rate of 3 marks per 100 kilogs. gross, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that this decision has been revoked, and that such cork waste is to be admitted duty free under No. 13 (*a*) of the Tariff.

NETHERLANDS.

Drawback on Goods worked-up from imported materials.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a copy and translation of a Dutch Royal Decree of the 17th May, authorising the Minister of Finance to allow the return of the import duty paid on goods which have been worked-up in the Netherlands on their exportation within twelve months in a manufactured or improved condition, on compliance with conditions to be laid down by the Minister of Finance for insuring the identity of the articles.

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

CAPE COLONY.

Reduction in Railway Rates for Cape Produce.

The "Government Gazette" of the Cape of Good Hope announces a reduction in the rates over Cape Government railways for Cape produce to:—"1½*d.* per ton per mile for distances under 23 miles; 23 to 30 miles, 2*s.* 11*d.* per ton; 31 miles and over, ½*d.* per ton per mile plus 1*s.* 8*d.* per ton terminals. Minimum 1*s.* 3*d.* per ton."

Extra-Colonial produce will continue to be charged at the rate of ¾*d.* per ton per mile, plus 1*s.* 8*d.* per ton terminals, and the rate of 1¼*d.* per ton per mile, plus 1*s.* 8*d.* per ton terminals for imported produce will remain undisturbed.

The Correspondent at Cape Town of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade (Mr. E. J. Cattell) in forwarding the above-mentioned notice, remarks that the effect will probably be to limit the importation of over-sea produce.

GERMANY—MEXICO.

Doubling of S.S. Service.

H.M. Consul at Mexico City (Mr. L. Jerome), in commenting on the activity of German competition in Mexico, forwards a cutting from a local Journal announcing that on 1st July next, the steamers of the Hamburg-American line will make trips to that country from Hamburg, and return, twice each month, instead of monthly as at present.

FRANCE.

No Disinfecting at Bayonne: Vessels from Plague Ports sent Elsewhere.

The British Vice-Consul at Bayonne (Mr. P. Schoedelin) states in his report for 1904, that it is of the greatest importance that shipowners should know that vessels bound to that port from foreign ports infected with plague cannot undergo fumigation at Bayonne, but must proceed previously either to Pauillac in the Gironde or St. Nazaire on the Loire. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,381.)

PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

Amended Port and Customs Charges at Lourenço Marques.

A despatch has been received from H.M. Consul-General at Lourenço Marques (Major J. G. Baldwin) stating that by a Decree dated 23rd January, 1905, certain changes have been made in the Port and Customs charges at Lourenço Marques. The principal alterations are given in the following table, which shows the tax per ton of net register, the Customs charges and the Customs clearance fees

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Shipping and Transport.

on craft of all classes navigating Portuguese and Portuguese-Colonial waters:—

—	Tonnage Tax (per ton of net register).	Customs Charges.	Customs Clearance Fees.
	Reis d.	Reis £ s. d.	Reis s. d.
Ocean-going vessels (sailing) ...	100 = 5½	*9,000 = 2 0 0	800 = 3 6½
" " (steamers)...	50 = 3		
" vessels, steamers, plying between Portugal and her Colonies	20 = 1	—	—
Coasters	8 = ½	(all charges included) 600 = 0 2 8	150 = 0 8
	(per annum)		
Local craft	200 = 11	300 = 0 1 4	100 = 0 5½

* Ocean vessels landing and shipping goods, all charges included. Ocean vessels not landing or shipping goods pay 1,000 reis (4*s.* 5½*d.*).

Medical inspection fees are as follows:—Ocean vessels over 500 tons net register, 2,400 reis (10*s.* 8*d.*); vessels under 500 tons net register, 1,200 reis (5*s.* 4*d.*); coasters, 800 reis (3*s.* 6½*d.*); and local craft arriving from infected ports, 1,000 reis (4*s.* 5½*d.*).

The despatch, which gives also a list of certain craft exempt from tonnage taxes (such as pleasure and fishing craft, &c.), together with definitions of "local" craft and "coasters" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

VENEZUELA.

New Line of Coasting Steamers.

The Acting British Consul at Caracas (Mr. W. Andral) in his recent report notes the establishment of a line of coasting steamers, having exclusive privileges, for a period of ten years, from Maracaibo to Cristobal Colon—nearly the entire coast line. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,384.)

GUATEMALA.

Progress of Guatemala Railway.

Referring to the notice on p. 347 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 26th May, 1904, the Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a memorandum by H.M. Consul at Guatemala (Mr. H. A. R. Hervey), on the condition of the Guatemala Railway, from which it appears that work is actively being pushed forward on the section from El Rancho to San Augustin (the end of the line at present in operation) to

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Shipping and Transport.

Sanarate, a distance of some 20 miles. It is thought that by August trains may be running from Puerto Barrios to Sanarate, and by that time the cart road from the capital to Sanarate should be completed. Contracts have been given out for the construction, by sections, of the line from Sanarate to Guatemala City, and work has already been commenced on some of these.

In addition to bridges, sleepers and piles, &c., large quantities of rolling stock have already arrived, or are on order.

By the original concession the line was to be completed and open to public traffic within three and a-half years, but efforts will be made to advance the date, and bring the work to a conclusion by the end of 1905.

The line, when finished, is expected to successfully compete for the carriage of a large portion of the coffee which now has to pay such exorbitant rates on the route to Europe *viâ* Panama.

JAPAN.

Freight Rates.

H.M. Secretary of Legation at Tokio (Mr. G. Barclay) says, in his recent report, that freight rates do not appear to have been materially affected by the war, and quotes the following remarks from the Foreign Board of Trade's annual report for 1904:—

"The rates for Europe at the close of 1903 were maintained throughout 1904 for general cargo, viz., 2*l.* 10*s.* (2*l.* 5*s.* for B class, 2*l.* for C class), and for waste silk per 40 cubic feet the rate was 22 yen (2*l.* 4*s.* 6*d.*). For New York, *viâ* canal, for general merchandise, the rate closed in 1903 at 1*l.* 5*s.*, but was subsequently raised to 1*l.* 10*s.*, at which figure it remained during 1904." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,377.)

Port facilities at Kobe and Osaka.

H.M. Consul at Kobe (Mr. H. A. C. Bonar) in remarking in his recent report on the great improvements that have been undertaken and are practically completed at Osaka, with a view to attracting a due share of the foreign trade to the natural port of the central provinces of Japan, says it need not be feared, however, that the increased importance of the City of Osaka, commanding the central region which extends eastwards to Nagoya, will affect Kobe. No other port west of the latter until Shimonoseki is reached is at present suitable for a trade outlet or inlet for the prosperous districts which form the borders of the Inland Sea.

Osaka is now the established centre of the rapidly increasing trade with North China and Corea, and doubtless in the very near future, Manchuria. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,387.)

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MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—NEW SOUTH WALES.

Mineral Industry. The following particulars of the mineral industry of New South Wales have been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from the Agent-General for that State:—

The quantity of gold won in New South Wales during the first three months of the year 1905 was 84,376 ozs. crude, equivalent to 69,906 ozs. fine, valued at 296,945*l.*, as compared with 103,448 ozs. crude (87,048 ozs. fine), valued at 369,755*l.*, during the same period of 1904.

The quantity and value of the silver, copper, tin and coal exported from New South Wales during the first quarter of this year were as follows:—

Product.	Quantity.	Value.
		£
Silver, ingots, and matte	149,336 ozs.	17,038
Silver-lead concentrates, &c.	101,690 tons	536,820
Copper, ingots, and ore	1,636 ,,	102,019
Tin, ingots, and ore	563 ,,	67,358
Coal to Australasian and other ports	676,100 ,,	278,342
Total value	—	£1,001,577

These figures indicate a net increase for the quarter of 65,145*l.*, as compared with the corresponding period last year. The exports of silver, silver-lead, &c., show an increase in value of 129,561*l.*, but the value of the coal exported is less by 39,565*l.* In copper and tin a decrease of 19,151*l.* and 5,700*l.* respectively, in value is also shown.

DENMARK.

Coal Imports. H.M. Consul at Copenhagen (Capt. J. Boyle), in his recent report, gives the following figures of the imports of coal into Denmark:—

In 1902, 2,166,893 tons, including 2,073,213 tons from United Kingdom; in 1903, 2,316,954 tons, including 2,197,107 tons from United Kingdom; and in 1904 2,488,500 tons (figures from the United Kingdom for 1904 not being available).

In 1903 there was some import of German coals, and the Danish State railways take a considerable amount from Germany.

The State Railways can buy these German coals cheaper than British, because they can so easily be transported to Jutland by rail. German coals are too brittle to be transported by sea, and therefore there is hardly any market for them on the Danish islands or in Norway and Sweden. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,392.)

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

MEXICO.

Discovery of Iron Ore.

H.M. Consul at Mexico City (Mr. L. Jerome) sends a cutting from the Mexican "Daily Record," announcing the discovery by the employés of an important iron-master (an Englishman) in the Republic, of a large body of hematite iron ore, stated to be well suited to furnacing, at Vista station in the State of Morelos, near the border of Guerroro, and on the Cuernavaca division of the Mexican Central Railway. Mr. Jerome remarks that charcoal fuel is abundant, and so is labour.

HONDURAS.

Copper Discovery.

A recent report by the United States Consul at Tegucigalpa says that a very rich discovery of copper has been made recently in the department of Yoro, in the Republic of Honduras. Those who have examined it state that the amount of ore is very large and very rich, running from 15 to 60 per cent. copper. The discoverers have located eight well-defined veins, which can be traced for miles on the surface, two of these being 12 feet wide, one 10 feet, and one 14 feet. It is calculated that the entire body will average 50 per cent. copper. The Consul adds that the properties are surrounded by forests of oak and pine, a coal deposit lies within 20 miles, and there is abundant water power sufficient for any machinery needed for reduction, &c. Moreover the deposit is comparatively close to transportation facilities, being 40 miles from the Ulua River, which is connected by canals with the bay at Puerto Cortes.

BOLIVIA.

Mineral Wealth.

H.M. Consul at La Paz (Mr. G. Harrison) gives in his report for 1904 (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,388), a long list of the minerals found in Bolivia, together with particulars of the districts in which deposits occur.

Tin.

H.M. Consul at Oruro (Mr. J. Ramsay Smith) remarks in the same report that the prosperity of his district is due entirely to the great increase in the production of tin.

During the year 1904, the total amount despatched from this district reached the large figure of 8,000 tons of metallic tin, or over 10 per cent. of the world's production. In 1903 it was about half this amount. For the present year Mr. Ramsay Smith considers there will be, under similar conditions, a still further increase. British subjects are largely interested in most of the principal mines.

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YARNS AND TEXTILES.

INDIA.

Cotton Spinning and Weaving Returns for February.

The Board of Trade have received a copy of the monthly return issued by the Indian Government, showing the quantity of cotton yarn spun, and of cotton woven goods produced, in each province in British India, and in the Native States, during February of each of the years 1903, 1904 and 1905, and in the eleven months, April to February, 1903, 1904, and 1905.

The following is a summarised statement extracted from the above return, giving particulars for the eleven months ended February, 1903, 1904 and 1905 :—

		Eleven Months ended February.		
		1903.	1904.	1905.
BRITISH INDIA, BERAR, AND NATIVE STATES.				
Cotton yarn spun	Lbs.	527,435,213	536,619,296	524,112,364
Cotton woven goods produced :—				
Grey goods	"	92,124,888	103,931,115	119,622,115
	= Yards	376,405,003	425,206,348	502,554,099
Figured and coloured goods	Lbs.	18,589,417	21,708,475	23,693,175
Hosiery	"	580,415	783,209	729,867
Miscellaneous goods ...	"	1,277,789	1,466,402	2,216,930

AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 10th June, 1905, were as follow :—

Wheat	31*s.* 4*d.*
Barley	24*s.* 0*d.*
Oats	18*s.* 11*d.*

For further particulars see p. 514.

NATAL.

Cotton Growing.

Referring to the notice on pp. 606-7 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 29th September last, the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from their correspondent at Port Natal (Mr. A. D. C. Agnew) the following communication relative to the results of experiments in cotton-growing in the Colony.

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Agriculture.

"I have now to report that the Managing Director of the Experimental Cotton-growing Syndicate, Mr. John Kirkman, informs me that between 20 and 30 acres were planted about four months ago with Egyptian seed. Although the planting was about eight weeks too late, it is remarkable to say, he writes 'that the growth has been beyond expectation, and a short crop sufficient to supply seed for next year may be reaped about July.'

"Seed received from Dar-es-Salem, 'which appeared to be a mixture of Sea Island and some other kind, has grown remarkably well, though planted about six weeks too late, but it is feared that the bolls will not open properly.'

"The crop from a few seeds of Sea Island, planted in the first week of December, 'is extremely prolific, and the only fear is that it will not open its bolls enough to pick profitably.'

"Uplands seed received from England (sent out in execution of an order for seed 'of the choicest variety'), planted in December—'evidently of 1903 crop—suffered severely from aphis and cut worm, but the few trees that pulled through, about one acre, are looking splendid, and the grand round four and five diamond bolls are certain to open well.'

"Mr. Kirkman has promised to report later as to the result of these sowings."

BRITISH WEST INDIES—BARBADOS.

Cotton Oil Factory.

The "Agricultural News," the official organ of the Agricultural Department of the West Indies, announces that in view of the progress made in connection with the Sea Island cotton industry in the West Indies, it is proposed to erect a small plant at Barbados for the purpose of expressing and refining the oil to be obtained from the seed. This enterprise, it is stated, is receiving the support of the British Cotton Growing Association, and it is probable that the first cotton oil factory to be established in the British West Indies will be ready to begin operations during the early part of next year.

It is estimated that the total crop of Sea Island cotton to be produced during the current season will be about 3,000 bales of 360 lbs. each, or 1,080,000 lbs. The weight of cotton seed will probably amount to 3,724,138 lbs., or 1,663 tons. The yield of crude oil amounts to about 45 gallons per ton of seed, so that if all the seed were dealt with at an oil factory the total output in crude oil would be 74,835 gallons.

The proposal to establish a cotton oil factory in the British West Indies is, adds the "Agricultural News," a gratifying proof of the confidence that is being felt in the future of the cotton industry.

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Agriculture.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—PORTO RICO.

Sugar Industry.

H.M. Consul at Porto Rico (Mr. W. B. Churchward) reports that the 1903–04 sugar crop of Porto Rico yielded 116,000 tons, the heaviest ever recorded in the Island. It is the result of the great development of the sugar centrals in the last few years now arriving at their proper condition of efficiency. The value of the crop was 786,245*l.* more than that of the previous year.

Two new centrals came into work during the year, one at Juncos and the other at Naguabo, while a third is planned for next year at Fajardo.

Nearly all the old factories of any importance have improved their plants and systems, and great activity is shown all round in opening up new cane areas to supply the growing capacities of the mills. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,379.)

Cotton Growing.

In the same report Mr. Churchward states that the revived growing of cotton does not appear to sustain the interest it created two years ago. Only in the light sandy soils of the north-west of the island is anything heard of any further planting worthy of note. This is owing, in a great measure, to the superior value of the unoccupied lands for cane cultivation, and, further, to the very disproportionate relations of expense and the quality and quantity of labour procurable amongst the Porto Ricans. It is said that owing to slowness in operation and the depreciation of the sample through inexperienced picking, it costs twice as much to harvest an acre of cotton in Porto Rico than it does in the United States cotton fields.

The cotton crop was estimated at 231,554 lbs., and is valued at 8,786*l.*

The British Vice-Consul at Arecibo (Mr. D. Wilson) reports that under public encouragement many Sea Island cotton plantations were started in the district during the year 1904. On good soils, with the cultivation properly attended to, the yield is good and satisfactory, but when prices fall below a certain point the cost of picking, transport, &c., prohibit its cultivation in this locality. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,379.)

HAYTI.

Cotton Growing.

H.M. Consul-General at Port-au-Prince (Mr. A. G. Vansittart) reports that 3,017,014 lbs. of cotton were exported from Hayti in 1904, as against 3,260,271 lbs. in 1903 and 2,000,000 lbs. in 1902. The gathering of cotton is generally abandoned on coffee rising in price. Most of the cotton was from St. Marc. The best

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Agriculture.

quality is said to be grown at Gonaïves. The cotton was shipped principally to Hamburg and Havre and a little to Liverpool.

275,847 lbs. of cotton seed, chiefly from Jacmel, were likewise exported.

Mr. Vansittart goes on to say:—

"This country is suited to cotton growing, and but little care or cultivation is required, the expense being the gathering, ginning, and baling. The staple is of fairly good quality.

"Exporters of cotton from Hayti are continually being blamed for the manner in which they pack and clean their merchandise. The cotton is generally badly gathered, and it often appears to be picked too late, a defect which, taken together with the humidity and the sun having given it a dark colour, causes its marketable value to be diminished.

"Owing to the somewhat woolly nature of Haytian cotton it has been suggested that it should be exported to Europe in denser bales than those in use.

"The quality of cotton grown resembles the fibres of Brazil (Céara, Pernambuco). I am informed that Sea Island cotton has been introduced, with a chance of its increasing." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,385.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 8th June, 1905, was 84,309 (including 416 bales British West Indian and 346 bales British West African), and the number imported during the 23 weeks ended the 8th June was 2,023,940 (including 2,868 bales British West Indian and 1,349 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 8th June, 1905, 5,096 bales, and for the 23 weeks, 211,749.

For further details see p. 514.

Bankruptcy Statistics.

The total number of receiving orders gazetted in England and Wales during the month of May last was 420, as compared with 363 during May, 1904.

For detailed particulars see pp. 516-7.

Alien Immigration.

The number of aliens arriving at ports in the United Kingdom during May, 1905, was 21,577, and during the five months ended 31st May, 88,655. Detailed statistics of alien immigration will be found on p. 515.

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Miscellaneous.

RUSSIA.

Measures recommended to prevent abuses in Grain export trade.

With reference to the notice on pp. 126-7 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th April last, the following note on the subject of the measures recommended by an expert to prevent the abuses now prevalent in the Russian grain export trade has been received from the Acting British Commercial Agent at Moscow (Mr. M. Grove):—

"Mr. Cvietkovsky, who was sent specially by the Russian Ministry of Finance to study the conditions of the Russian grain business in England, says the universal complaint in England was that the weight declared was so frequently in excess of the actual weight—very often by as much as ten per cent. He seems inclined to think that this is very often done purposely, and points out the evil results of such practices, as also of the amount of rubbish which is often mixed with the grain.

"The author groups Russia, Egypt and India as the less cultured exporters, as opposed to the United States, Australia and Canada. He recommends the standardization of grain, the leaguing of Russian exporters with a view to preventing malpractices, and the establishment of clearing-houses."

DENMARK.

New Commercial Law for Patterns and Designs.

According to the report for 1904 by H.M. Consul at Copenhagen (Captain J. Boyle) the only law of commercial interest which was passed during the last Session of the Rigsdag was one for the protection of patterns and designs, dated 1st April, 1905. The duration of the protection does not exceed 15 years, and may be limited to 12, 9, 6 or 3 years, according to the applicant's choice. The fee payable is just over 1*l.* for 15 years' duration, and for shorter periods less in proportion. The general features, &c., of the law are similar to the trade mark law and the patent law (*vide* Annual Series, 3,180).

Manufacture of Spirit from Peat.

Captain Boyle also reports the starting of a new industry, viz., the manufacture of spirit for industrial purposes from peat. It is said that it is possible in this way to obtain a very cheap supply for power, light and heat. If the experiments, tests, &c., are correct, the production would no doubt be large and profitable. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,392.)

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Miscellaneous.

PORTUGUESE EAST AFRICA.

Reduction in Transfer Duty on Property.

H. M. Consul-General at Lourenço Marques (Major J. G. Baldwin) reports that by official decree the transfer duty on property in the Province of Mozambique has been reduced from ten to two and a half per cent.

OTTOMAN EMPIRE—TRIPOLI.

Prohibition of Sponge Fishing.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul-General at Tripoli (Mr. J. Alvarez) notifying the absolute prohibition by Imperial Iradé of the sponge fishery within Ottoman territorial waters by anybody irrespective of nationality.

MEXICO.

Establishment of Department of Exploitation and Commercial Information.

A despatch has been received from H.M. Minister at Mexico City (Mr. G. Greville, C.M.G.) enclosing translation of a contract signed in that City between Senor Blas Escontria, the Minister of Fomento, and a Mr. José Castellot, for the establishment of an International Financial Association for the encouragement of immigration, and the development of the natural resources of Mexico, which shall also serve the purpose of a bureau of information for answering enquiries respecting industrial enterprises and commercial firms, established in the Republic.

In accordance with the stipulations of this contract, the Association must be founded within one year from the 29th April, 1905, the date upon which the contract was signed.

A bulletin of information as to the national resources, &c., is to be published at least once a month. The National Government undertakes no responsibility in connection with information supplied by the "International Financial Association."

Law relating to Credit Institutions.

The "Diario Oficial" of Mexico, of 13th May, contains the text of a Decree modifying the Law of 19th March, 1897, respecting credit institutions in that country, in accordance with the powers conferred by Article 2 (*l*) of the Monetary Law of 9th December, 1904 (see p. 39 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 5th January).

In the present Decree it is stipulated that the free coinage of silver having been prohibited by Article 9 of the Monetary Law of 25th March (see p. 130 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 20th April), silver bars can no longer be reckoned in the calculation of

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Miscellaneous.

the reserve funds required to be kept by banks of issue in the Republic. Gold bars can be reckoned in the reserve funds only when the free coinage of gold is legalised under the special circumstances provided for in Article 10 of the Law of 25th March, when its value is to be calculated at the rate of one peso per 75 centigrammes of pure gold.

The Law also contains provisions prohibiting the calculation of any kind of deposits payable at sight in estimating the reserve funds; granting an extension of the time within which the monthly balance sheets of banks must be published so as to admit the accounts of branches up to the same date as the general account, to be incorporated in the latter; and prohibiting the grant of concessions for the establishment of banks of issue in the Republic until after 31st December, 1909.

VENEZUELA.

Effect of Sugar and Tobacco Monopolies.

The Acting British Consul at Caracas (Mr. W. Andral) alludes in his recent report to the Government rum and tobacco monopolies established last year. The effect has been that some sugar growers instead of producing rum have closed their stills and turned out more sugar. Over-production has followed, and now growers have decided to make muscovado sugar for export.

On the other hand, many planters have decided not to grow any more tobacco. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,384.)

BOLIVIA.

Decree making the British Sovereign Legal Tender.

H.M. Consul at La Paz (Mr. G. Harrison) states in his recent report that the Bolivian Congress promulgated, in December last, a law making the British sovereign legal tender at the rate of 12 bolivars 50 c. and decreeing that from 1st January, 1905, 50 per cent. of the Custom-house duties shall be payable in gold, at the rate of 12 bols. 50 c. per 1*l*.

In case of a part or all of the 50 per cent. being paid in silver, the portion so paid shall be assessed 5 per cent. Fractions less than 12 bols. 50 c. in value may be paid in silver without assessment.

The exportation of coined silver is declared free, and its importation to the Republic is prohibited under the penalty of law.

The Executive Government is empowered to order the suspension of coinage of silver.

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the **Number** of **Bales** of **Cotton Imported** and **Exported** at the **Various Ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the Week and 23 Weeks ended 8th June, 1905 :—

	Week ended 8th June, 1905.	23 Weeks ended 8th June, 1905.	Week ended 8th June, 1905.	23 Weeks ended 8th June, 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	77,427	1,694,077†	3,220	150,044
Brazilian	—	28,700	—	507
East Indian	569	24,336†	—	6,192
Egyptian	2,972	244,976†	1,585	53,317
Miscellaneous	3,341*	31,851†‡	291	1,689§
Total	84,309	2,023,940	5,096	211,749

* Including 416 bales British West Indian, and 346 bales British West African.
† Corrected figures.
‡ Including 2,865 bales British West Indian and 1,349 bales British West African.
§ " 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the **Average Price** of **British Corn,** per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 10th June, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 10th June, 1905	31	4	24	0	18	11
Corresponding week in—						
1898	42	4	26	1	20	5
1899	25	7	23	1	17	10
1900	25	6	23	8	18	11
1901	27	8	24	0	19	7
1902	30	11	23	8	22	8
1903	27	8	21	5	18	7
1904	26	6	18	5	16	10

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Alien Immigration—May.

Statement showing the Number of **Alien** Passengers that **Arrived** from the Continent (whether in transit or not) at Ports in the **United Kingdom** during the Month and Five Months ending 31st May, 1905, compared with the corresponding periods of the previous Year.

(Compiled from the Alien Lists received by the Customs under Act 6 Will. 4, c. 11, sec. 2.)

Ports of Arrival in United Kingdom.	CONTINENTAL PORTS OF EMBARKATION.															
	Hamburg, Bremen, and Bremerhaven.		Rotterdam, Amsterdam, and Antwerp.		Scandinavian Ports.		Finnish Ports.		Libau.		Dieppe.		Other Continental Ports.		Total.	
	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*
	(i.) Month ending 31st May.															
London ...	1,309	*1,697*	1,106	*909*	162	*161*	...	...	286	*591*	...	...	655	*222*	3,518	*3,580*
Grimsby ...	1,134	*928*	818	*808*	1,190	*1,173*	...	...	...	...	1	*1*	...	...	3,143	*2,910*
Harwich ...	...	...	...	...	944	*613*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	944	*613*
Hull	367	*427*	757	*632*	4,267	*4,493*	2,489	*1,038*	410	*437*	...	...	76	*153*	8,366	*7,179*
Tyne Ports ...	21	*50*	37	*45*	884	*736*	...	*12*	...	...	...	...	11	*5*	953	*850*
Leith ...	51	*88*	128	*112*	54	*41*	...	...	...	...	...	...	127	*205*	360	*446*
Newhaven ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,708	*1,495*	...	...	1,708	*1,495*
Other Ports ..	20	*15*	571	*312*	267	*148*	...	*22*	...	*1*	...	...	1,727	*901*	2,585	*1,399*
Total ...	2,902	*3,905*	3,417	*2,818*	7,768	*7,366*	2,489	*1,072*	696	*1,029*	1,709	*1,496*	2,596	*1,486*	21,577	*18,472*
	(ii.) Five Months ending 31st May.															
London ...	7,009	*5,941*	5,643	*3,633*	517	*613*	...	...	2,141	*1,766*	...	...	2,024	*735*	17,334	*12,688*
Grimsby ...	5,007	*3,061*	3,705	*6,897*	5,269	*3,523*	...	...	...	...	1	*2*	3	...	13,985	*13,483*
Harwich ...	...	...	...	...	4,544	*3,410*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,544	*3,410*
Hull	1,346	*1,581*	2,201	*2,164*	15,664	*13,553*	10,395	*2,623*	1,839	*1,719*	...	...	189	*431*	31,634	*22,031*
Tyne Ports ...	118	*119*	138	*183*	4,121	*3,528*	...	*150*	...	...	...	...	34	*18*	4,411	*3,998*
Leith ...	181	*281*	496	*433*	210	*162*	...	...	...	...	...	...	294	*258*	1,181	*1,129*
Newhaven ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,331	*6,089*	...	*19*	6,331	*6,108*
Other Ports ..	128	*138*	1,604	*1,000*	851	*633*	...	*23*	1	*2*	1	...	6,650	*3,801*	9,235	*5,597*
Total ...	13,789	*11,061*	13,787	*14,335*	31,176	*25,422*	10,395	*2,796*	3,981	*3,487*	6,333	*6,091*	9,194	*5,262*	88,655	*68,454*

NOTES:—(i.) ALIENS IN TRANSIT.—The above totals include Aliens in transit, but the number of such Aliens cannot be stated, as particulars on this point are not required by law to be furnished. At some ports, however, it is the usual practice to state on the Alien Lists the number of Aliens known to be "*en route* to other countries." The total number so described in May, 1905, was 13,189, compared with 10,714 in May, 1904. In the five months ending May, 1905, the number was 51,730, compared with 38,990 in the five months ending May, 1904. These figures, however, are incomplete for the reasons stated, and many Aliens not described in the Aliens Lists as "*en route* to other countries," are in fact, known by special inquiry, to have been also in transit.

(ii.) SAILORS.—The number of sailors included with the Aliens not described in the Alien Lists as *en route* to places out of the United Kingdom in the month of May, 1905, was 1,415, and 1,185 in the same month of 1904; in the five months ending May, 1905, the number was 6,103, and in the same months of 1904 the number was 5,358.

(iii.) SCOPE OF THE RETURNS.—The ports from which Alien Lists are received are Aberdeen, Belfast, Blyth, Bristol, Cardiff, Dover, Dublin, Folkestone, Glasgow, Goole, Grangemouth, Granton, Greenock, Grimsby, Harwich, Hull, Kirkcaldy, Leith, Liverpool, London, Middlesbrough, Newcastle, Newhaven, Newport, North Shields, South Shields, Southampton, Sunderland, and West Hartlepool. The lists received from Dover, Folkestone, Harwich, Newhaven, and Southampton show only deck passengers, and persons who, after landing, proceed by train as third-class passengers.

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Bankruptcy.—England and Wales.

Number of Receiving Orders Gazetted in the under-mentioned Periods and in the under-mentioned Principal Trades and Occupations.

	May.		Five Months ended May.	
	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*
Total gazetted...	No. 420	*No. 363*	No. 2,089	*No. 1,917*
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations :—				
Grocers, &c....	34	*34*	142	*132*
Publicans and hotel keepers, &c.	27	*17*	137	*106*
Builders	30	*27*	126	*136*
Farmers	10	*12*	103	*72*
Bakers	14	*11*	66	*62*
Greengrocers, fruiterers, &c.	9	*7*	58	*52*
Boot and shoe manufacturers and dealers ...	14	*12*	55	*41*
Drapers, haberdashers, &c.	9	*13*	51	*57*
Decorators, painters, plumbers, &c.	10	*8*	50	*34*
Butchers	14	*12*	45	*43*
Tailors, &c.	10	*5*	41	*36*
Agents, commission and general	10	*1*	41	*19*
Coal and coke merchants and dealers	7	*3*	38	*25*
Fishmongers, poulterers, &c.	6	*3*	35	*28*
Auctioneers	8	*8*	26	*18*
Corn, flour, seed, hay, and straw merchants and dealers	6	*7*	25	*25*
Confectioners	6	*2*	24	*20*
Travellers, commercial	8	*4*	23	*16*
Carpenters and joiners	8	—	22	*10*
Furniture dealers and makers	8	*4*	20	*26*
Hairdressers...	2	—	19	*11*
Carriers, carmen, lightermen, and hauliers ...	4	*4*	19	*17*
Provision merchants, &c.	5	*2*	19	*13*
Jewellers, watchmakers, silversmiths, &c. ...	5	*8*	19	*27*
Tobacconists, &c.	2	*2*	18	*13*
General dealers	5	—	18	*21*
Restaurant, coffee and eating-house keepers ...	1	*3*	17	*14*
Cab, omnibus and fly proprietors	5	*2*	17	*8*

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Bankruptcy.—England and Wales—*continued.*

	May.		Five Months ended May.	
	1905.	*1904.*	1905.	*1904.*
	No.	*No.*	No.	*No.*
Number gazetted in principal trades and occupations—*continued:*				
Clerks, commercial and general	1	*6*	16	*29*
Clothiers, outfitters, &c.	3	*1*	16	*11*
Milliners, dressmakers, &c.	3	*2*	14	*13*
Ironmongers	3	*1*	14	*11*
Printers, booksellers, and publishers	2	*4*	14	*23*
Engineers and founders, &c.	1	*5*	14	*18*
Stationers	3	—	14	*4*
Solicitors	1	*4*	13	*20*
Schoolmasters and schoolmistresses	3	*1*	13	*9*
Cabinet makers and upholsterers	2	*1*	13	*12*
Carriage, &c., builders	5	*2*	13	*12*
Bicycle, &c., manufacturers and dealers ..	1	*4*	12	*14*
Doctors of medicine, physicians, &c.	2	—	12	*7*
Wheelwrights	2	*2*	12	*9*
Chemists, druggists and chemical manufacturers	4	*2*	12	*9*
Lodging-house keepers	3	*1*	12	*9*
Directors and promoters of public companies ..	1	*1*	11	*10*
Gardeners, florists, &c.	2	*1*	11	*18*
Contractors	1	*2*	10	*13*
Timber merchants	1	—	9	*10*
Merchants, general	2	*1*	9	*13*
China, glass, and earthenware, &c., dealers ..	2	*3*	8	*8*
Cattle and pig dealers	—	*2*	8	*11*
Dairymen, cowkeepers, &c.	6	—	8	*10*
Woollen merchants and manufacturers	1	*1*	7	*7*
Saddlers and harness makers	1	*3*	7	*12*
Curriers, tanners, and leather merchants ...	—	*1*	6	*3*
Officers in Army	—	*3*	6	*10*
Stone, marble and monumental masons, &c. ...	—	*2*	6	*10*
Blacksmiths, farriers, &c.	1	*4*	6	*19*
Architects and surveyors	2	*3*	6	*12*
Fishing smack owners, and masters	—	—	4	*3*
Hosiers, gloves, &c.	1	*3*	4	*9*
Wine and spirit merchants, &c.	—	*2*	4	*8*
Millers	2	*4*	4	*12*
Brokers, stock and share	—	*1*	3	*8*
Cotton spinners and manufacturers	—	—	1	*2*

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of May, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that Volume I. of the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 7*d.* at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900–1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country). The second volume will contain details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the May issue:—State of the Labour Market in April; Tenth Abstract of Labour Statistics; Emigration and Immigration in 1904; Relief of the Unemployed; Coal Exports, 1900–1904; and recent Conciliation Cases.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the Annual Series issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,393. Trade of Hamburg, 1904.

Decrease in exports to the United Kingdom, but slight increase in imports therefrom.

Record total of shipping visiting the port.

Progress of principal German steamship companies.

Review of import and export trade with British Colonies, South America and the Far East.

Notes on course and extent of trade in staple articles.

Harbour works and railway improvements.

Comparative statistics of principal imports and exports at Hamburg.

This publication contains also reports by the British Vice-Consuls at Lübeck, Bremen, Harburg, Emden, Kiel and Hanover.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,394. Trade of Ciudad Bolivar, 1904.

Effect of the enhanced duties levied on transit traffic *viâ* Trinidad.

Unfavourable prospects for export trade. No improvement in gold-mining industry.

No. 3395. Trade of Bulgaria, 1904.

Classes of goods in which Austria-Hungary, France and Germany are competing with United Kingdom.

Returns of imports and exports, with notes on character of trade.

No. 3396. Trade of Sicily, 1904.

Prospects of the sulphur industry.

Export of asphalt and sumach.

Opening for development of tourist traffic by sea.

Necessity for port improvements at Palermo.

Projected railway lines.

Condition of fruit trade.

Statistics of imports and exports at Palermo, with notes.

This publication contains also reports by the British Vice-Consuls at Messina, Catania, Syracuse, Pozzallo, Licata, Marsala, and Trapani.

No. 3397. Trade of Alexandria, 1904.

Returns of shipping and import trade, by countries.

Hints to commercial travellers.

Examination of trade in textiles, metals, and other imported goods.

Export returns, with notes.

No. 3,398. Trade of the Consular District of Philadelphia for 1904.

Large decrease in tonnage of British shipping, as compared with 1903.

Table showing fluctuations in prices of crude and finished iron and steel from January, 1900, to December, 1904.

Statistics of pig-iron production.

Output of coal in United States of America during 1904 amounted to about 7,000,000 tons less than in 1903: shortage of nearly 10,000,000 tons in Pennsylvania.

Review of American shoe and leather industry, with details as to methods of production.

Important improvement in manufacture of railway car axles.

No. 3,399. Foreign Trade of Austria-Hungary for 1904.

Total value of foreign trade, 171,500,000*l.*, as compared with 165,900,000*l.* in 1903.

Import and export of semi-manufactured and manufactured goods, and the import of raw material have increased, while the export of raw material has decreased.

Import and export returns, with detailed statistics of trade with United Kingdom and British Colonies.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,400. Trade of Quezaltenango for 1904.

Import trade has fallen off since 1898, owing to silver currency having been practically replaced by paper.

Details of rate of exchange since 1898.

Prices of food stuffs are likely to rule high for some time, owing to shortage of maize crop.

The outlook for trade in 1905 is very poor.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions, 1904. *Vol. I.* [*Cd.* 2,497.] *Price* 7*s.* 7*d.*

This is the first volume of the statement of the oversea trade of the United Kingdom for the year 1904, and contains abstract tables showing the total imports and exports of every article which is separately enumerated in the official classification, as well as detailed tables showing the quantity and value of the imports and exports of each article from and to each country; figures are given in each case not only for the year 1904 but for each of the four preceding years. A new feature of the present issue of this return is an introductory statement explaining the bases on which the tables are compiled, and giving an outline of their scope and arrangement.

Several alterations have been made in the classification of imports and exports; amongst the more important of these it may be noted that in the import tables the headings for "chemical products," "musical instruments," "seed oil," "chinaware or porcelain and earthenware," "hardware," "iron and steel," have been sub-divided in greater detail than was formerly the case. The statements of the exports of the following classes of goods are also shown in greater detail, viz., coal products, oil-seed cake, chemicals, chinaware or porcelain and earthenware, hollow-ware and musical instruments. The returns of the shipments of certain classes of iron and steel goods and of wool have been re-classified.

Volume II. of this statement will include tables of imports and exports of the United Kingdom, arranged under the countries from and to which they were shipped, as well as the imports and exports at each port, &c.

Diseases of Animals Acts, &c.; reports of proceedings. [*Cd.* 2,454.] *Price* 11*d.*

This publication contains the annual reports of proceedings by the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries under the Diseases of Animals Acts, the Markets and Fairs (Weighing of Cattle) Acts, &c., &c., for the year 1904, together with statistics of international trade in animals.

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Government Publications.

Sugar (Cost). Great Britain and Foreign Countries. 174. *Price ½d.*

This is a return showing the price per pound retail of the kind of sugar most largely consumed by the working classes, whether refined or unrefined, on or about the 1st March, 1905, in the capital cities of Germany, Austria-Hungary, Belgium, France, Holland, Russia, Denmark and Great Britain, respectively, together with the amount, in English currency, of the existing Customs and Excise duties respectively, per pound in each case.

Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries. Reports. [*Cd.* 2,553.] *Price 2s. 4d.*

This return, which was mentioned on p. 476 of the issue of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 8th June, has been prepared in the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, contains a digest of information which has been received from H.M. Representatives in foreign countries as the result of enquiries instituted by the Board of Trade, through the Foreign Office, at the suggestion of the British Iron Trade Association. The data collected by H.M. Representatives and published in this return comprise particulars as to the geographical position and extent of iron ore deposits in various countries, the respective means of transport, cost of labour, analyses of ore, &c., together with other particulars likely to be of service to those interested in the iron trade in this country. A number of samples, maps and miscellaneous documents forwarded by H.M. Representatives in illustration of their reports may be seen at the office of the Commercial Intelligence Branch (see p. 479).

Banking and Railway Statistics, Ireland. [*Cd.* 2,519.] *Price 7d.*

This is the report on the Banking and Railway Statistics of Ireland for the half-year July to December, 1904, issued by the Department of Agriculture and Technical Instruction for Ireland. It gives statistics illustrating the growth of Irish Banking (Joint Stock and Post Office Savings) since 1884, and the weekly receipts of Irish railways in the years 1903 and 1904.

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Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—	
	Austria-Hungary:	
3343	Finances and General Economic Conditions 1900–04	6½*d.*
3399	Foreign Trade... ...1904	1½*d.*
3328	Trieste ... ... „	1½*d.*
	Belgium:	
3327	Antwerp—Shipping ...1904	7½*d.*
3325	Belgium—Finances 1904–05	1*d.*
	Bulgaria:	
3395	Bulgaria 1904	1*d.*
	Denmark:	
3324	Denmark (Supplementary) 1903	½*d.*
3392	Denmark 1904	3½*d.*
3350	Iceland 1901–03	1*d.*
	France and Colonies:	
3381	Bordeaux 1904	3*d.*
3330	Brest ... ... „	1½*d.*
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3378	Cochin-China ... ... „	1½*d.*
3368	Havre ... ... „	3½*d.*
3336	Nantes ... ... „	1*d.*
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	German Empire and Colonies:	
3342	Chemnitz and Saxony 1904	1*d.*
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3390	„ (Supplementary ... ... „	2½*d.*
3393	Hamburg ... ... „	4*d.*
3358	Pomerania ... ... „	2½*d.*
624	*Memorandum on German Cement*	½*d.*
430	*Technical Instruction in Germany: Supplementary and Miscellaneous* ...	4*d.*
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	Netherlands:	
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	Portugal and Colonies:	
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	Russia:	
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628	*Cultivation of Tea in the Caucasus*	½*d.*
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	Spain:	
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3382	Bussorah ... ... „	½*d.*
3357	Constantinople ... „	2*d.*
3359	Trebizond ... ... „	3½*d.*
	AFRICA—	
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3321	Somaliland Protectorate... ... 1903–04	3*d.*
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	AMERICA, NORTH—	
	United States of America:	
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Government Publications.

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	Persia:	
3360	Arabistan 1904	1d.
3374	Kerman ... 1904–05	1d.
3376	Khorassan ... 1903–04	2d.
	PACIFIC ISLANDS—	
3380	Samoa 1904	1d.

Treaty Series.

The following numbers of the Treaty Series issued since the 1st January, 1905, may also be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

No.	———	Price
	EUROPE— Austria-Hungary.	
14	Convention between the United Kingdom and Austria-Hungary providing for the settlement by arbitration of certain classes of questions which may arise between the respective Governments	½d.
	France:	
3	Agreements between the United Kingdom and France referring to Arbitration the question of the Grant of the French flag to Muscat Dhows...	½d.
5	Convention between the United Kingdom and France respecting Newfoundland and West and Central Africa ...	1d.
6	Declaration between the United Kingdom and France respecting Egypt and Morocco	1½d.
7	Declaration between the United Kingdom and France concerning Siam, Madagascar, and the New Hebrides ...	½d.
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10	Convention between the United Kingdom and France respecting commercial relations between the British Protectorates of East Africa, Central Africa, and Uganda	½d.

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SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

March, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

o Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

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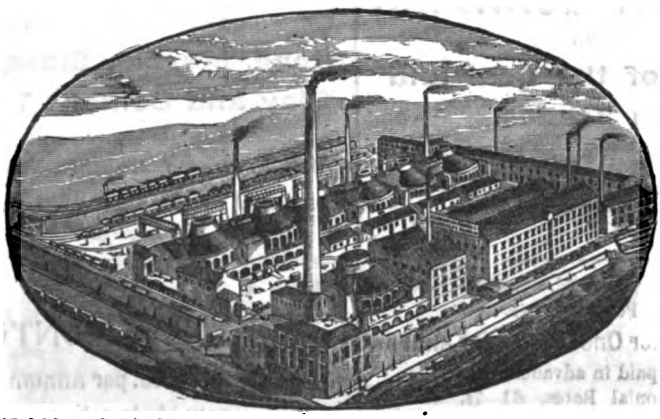

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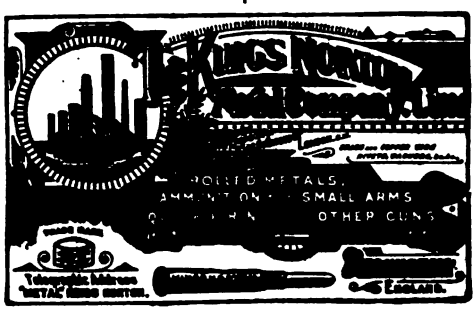

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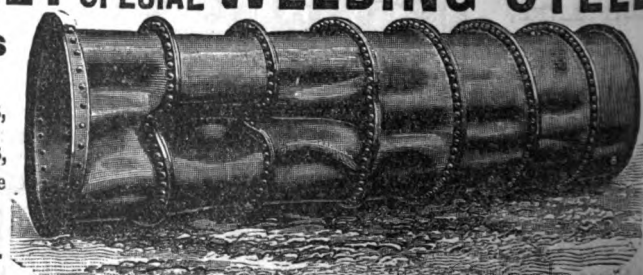

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Nickson, G. & J., & Co., Ltd., Liverpool ... ...

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The following Admiralty Charts have recently been newly issued, or so la corrected as to render a new Chart desirable. The date of the alteration is no in the centre of the bottom of the Chart.

NOTE.—Charts that have received such alterations as can usually be made by hand on t Charts in use, in agreement with the "Notices to Mariners," are not described in the List below. T date of such alteration is shown at the left hand lower corner of the Chart.

Chart No.	Title of Chart, and Nature and Subject of Correction.
2690	France, W., Brest Roadstead. Large corrections, April.
2282	Arctic Ocean and Greenland Sea. Large corrections, April.
3488	Iceland, N., Eyia (Oe) Fiord. New Chart, April.
3485	Mediterranean, Greece, W., Port Plateali (Platea.) New chart, April.
3010	Cochin China, Fuyen and Ku Mong Harbours. Ku Mong Harbour, April.
264	" Hue River Entrance, Kin Hon or Thi Nai Harbour. Large corrections, April.
1008	" Kam Ranh Bay to Vung-Ro Bay, including Nhatrang, Binkang, and Hon Kohe Bays. Large corrections, April.
3486	China Sea, Kwang Chau Wan, River Matshé. New chart, April.
1767	China, E., Amoy, harbours and approaches. Outer harbour, April.
949	Philippine Islands, ports. Port Galera and Varadero Bay, April.
2987	" Samar, W., San Pedro Bay to Libukan Islands, including Juanico Strait. Large corrections, May.
2578	Philippine Islands, eastern part of the Sulu or Mindoro Sea. Large corrections, April.
1648	Japan, S., Van Diemen (Osumi) Strait to Oshima, showing the approaches to Bungo and Ki Channels. Van Diemen Strait to N. of Odonese, April.
3109	Japan, Nipon, S., Gulf of Tokyo or Yedo, Yokohama Bay. Large corrections, May.
358	" western coasts of Kiusiu and Nipon, including the Korea Strait. Large correction April.
3469	Japan, Nuikai or Seto Uchi, Aki or Mishima Nada, Hiroshima Wan. New chart, April
3490	New Zealand, South Island, Buller Bay, and Westport Harbour. New chart, April.
3484	" Awarua or Bluff Harbour. New chart, April.
3313	N. America, W., Alaska, Yakutat (Bering) Bay. Plan Controller Bay added, April.
1457	America, N.W., Alaska, anchorages. Plan Nateekin Bay added, April.
3136	" " " " Plan Shearwater Bay added, April.
1300	S. America. W., Chile, plans on the coast. Plan Horcon and Quintero Bays, April.
24	" " Patagonia, Channels between Gulf of Trinidad and Gulf of [illegible] Bay and Baker Channel, April.
3433	Newfoundland, E., Notre Dame Bay, Bay of Exploits, sheet ii. (middle). New [illegible]
3434	" " " " " sheet iii. (south). New [illegible]

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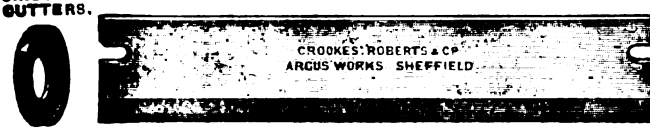

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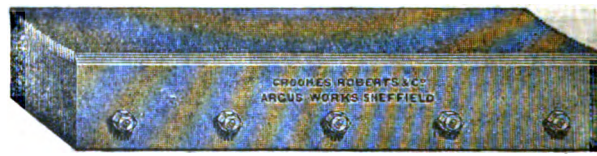

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THE Board of Trade Journal

Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

JUNE 22, 1905.

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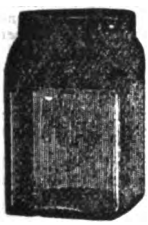

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Further particulars and forms of tender can be obtained on application to Mr. Henry York, C.E., Surveyor to the Council.

Tenders, which must be on the forms supplied, must be sent in, addressed to the Chairman of the Council, not later than 12 noon, on Thursday, the 29th June, 1905.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

Samples of materials must be deposited with the tenders.

(By Order)

GEO. DICKINSON BYFIELD, Clerk.

Offices of the Council,
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CONTRACTS.

RHYL.—June 24th.—Taking down old police station buildings and erecting a public free library, for the urban district council.—Mr. A. Rowlands, clerk.

MIDDLESBROUGH.—June 24th.—Erection of schools, for the Education Committee. Mr. J. S. Calvert, secretary.

ABINGDON.—June 24th.—Erection of a new ward block, for the Joint Hospital Board.—Mr. B. Challenor, clerk.

DARLINGTON.—June 26th.—Renewing stonework in the town hall, clock tower and market buildings, for the Corporation.—Mr. H. Steavenson, town clerk.

ILFORD.—June 26th.—Erection of a cottage at the outfall works, for the Urban District Council.—Mr. J. W. Benton, clerk.

ILFORD.—June 27th.—Erection of a temporary school, for the Urban District Council.—Mr. J. W. Benton, clerk.

CAERPHILLY (Wales).—June 27th.—Erection of an isolation hospital, for the Urban District Council.—The Chairman.

ROTHERHAM.—June 27th.—Erection of shops and offices, for the Corporation.—Mr. W. J. Board, town clerk.

LINDSEY (Lincs).—July 6th.—Erection of an elementary school, for the Education Committee.—Mr. S. M. Grant, secretary, 286, High-street, Lincoln.

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The whole of the material is to be delivered in such quantities and at such times, not later than December 31, 1905, as may be ordered by the borough surveyor.

Tenders, in sealed envelopes, endorsed "Tender for Road Metal," must be sent to the undersigned not later than 12 o'clock noon on Saturday, the 1st day of July, 1905.

The Corporation does not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender; but should a tender be accepted, the person tendering will be required to enter into a contract, in the form now deposited at the Town Clerk's Office, and which can be seen on application, with the corporation for the due performance of the tender.

ALLAN TASSELL,
Town Clerk.

20, West-street, Faversham.
June 8, 1905.

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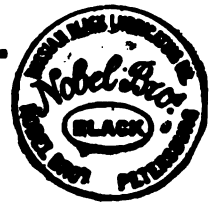

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Telegraphic Address:—"DECIMAL, GLASGOW."

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Australian Commonwealth.—Opening for Artificial Fertilizers.

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLIX.] June 22, 1905. [No. 447

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 573.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where there are at present on view, among other exhibits, samples of iron ore received from H.M. Consuls at the following places, viz.:—Wimille (near Boulogne), Corsica, Oporto, Brussa (Asia Minor), Rubigo near Scutari (Albania), Adis Ababa and Harrar (Abyssinia), Copiapo (Chile), Guadeloupe, Tegucigalpa (Honduras), Peru, Muscat (Arabia), and Wuhu (China), to illustrate their reports, which are among those embodied in the publication just issued by the Board of Trade on "Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries" (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 15th June, p. 521); samples of Chinese-made footwear (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 6th April, pp. 10-11); samples of copper from the Besshi copper mine in Japan (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 23rd March last, p. 560); and also samples of cotton grown in Colombia (see p. 544 of present issue).

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 574.

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Openings for British Trade.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following were among the recent enquiries relating to Canadian trade received at the **Canadian Government Offices, Victoria Street, S.W.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A firm doing a wholesale butter trade have asked to be placed in communication with a few good butter shippers in Canada, with a view to securing direct shipments.

A Canadian representative is being sought by a firm of Scotch distillery agents and blenders.

An English firm manufacturing high class mineral waters, fruit syrups, cordials, essences, &c., are seeking a suitable agent with a view to extending their connection in Canada.

Canadian Enquiries.—Enquiry is made by a Montreal correspondent for names of manufacturers in Great Britain of jute cloth suitable for flour feed, seeds, wheat, cement, &c.

A Toronto agent asks for names of brass bedsteads and linoleum makers, with a view to securing their representation in Canada.

A New Brunswick dairy company owning several cheese and butter factories, enquire for makers of butter cans in which to pack butter for export.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the High Commissioner for Canada, Victoria Street, S.W.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.**, whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiries.—A manufacturer of wire rope wishes to develop trade in Canada.

A company manufacturing linseed oil are prepared to negotiate for the sale of it in Canada, both raw and boiled.

A firm manufacturing arc lamp lowering gear and other electrical specialities ask to be placed in communication with Canadian firms interested in these goods.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Artificial Fertilizers.

The Canadian Commercial Agent at Melbourne (Mr. D. H. Ross) reports that artificial fertilizers have had a very large sale during the past year. Farmers all over Australia are using them in increased quantities. They are largely imported from Great Britain, although

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considerable quantities have come in from Japan recently, as well as guano from the deposits in the Pacific Islands. About one-third of the amount required is made locally, and as farmers are finding the locally made article most satisfactory, they are giving it preference, and preparations are being made in South Australia and Victoria to largely increase the local output.

NATAL.

Materials for Wharf Construction.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by their Correspondent at Durban (Mr. A. D. C. Agnew), that the Natal Government intend to complete with all despatch a wharf 2,000 feet in length along part of the lands known as Congella Lands, and the reclamation of these lands is now being carried out.

Cement.

Referring to the notice on p. 392 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 2nd March last, the successful tenderers for the erection of the new Municipal Buildings at Durban, are stated in the "Natal Mercury" to be Messrs. Cornelius & Hollis, of that city, for the sum of 237,945*l.*, the building to be in part stone and part cement.

Local stone is to be utilised. British cement, however, is to be used, and the amount required may be estimated from the cost of the frontages to be carried out in cement plaster work, which is calculated at 18,000*l.*

EGYPT.

Purchase of Old Railway Material.

A communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from the Administration of the Egyptian State Railways notifying that tenders for the purchase of old railway material will be received by the Administration until the 10th July. Tenders, made out on stamped paper of 30 millièmes, should be placed in envelopes bearing the inscription "Offre pour vieux matériaux," and addressed to "M. le Président, Chemins de Fer de l'Etat, Cairo."

Conditions of tender, with list of the materials to be sold, can be obtained from Lieut.-Col. Western, R.E., C.M.G., Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, S.W., upon payment of 2*s.* per copy. A copy may also be inspected at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

RUSSIA—POLAND.

Textile Machinery: Cotton Yarns.

An article on the state of the textile industry in Poland will be found on pp. 540–1, in which H.M. Consul-General at Warsaw (Colonel A. P. Murray) calls attention to the numerous enquiries for new textile machinery and sundries, and also to the scarcity of certain kinds of cotton yarn.

RUSSIA—FINLAND.

Auction Sales of Timber.

In connection with the announcement published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 8th June, respecting certain forthcoming sales by auction of logs from the Finnish Government forests, H.M. Consul at Helsingfors (Mr. C. J. Cooke) has now forwarded a copy of the official Finnish Gazette containing detailed information as to these sales, which may be consulted at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

H.M. Consul has also forwarded a supplementary list of public auctions of logs (chiefly red and white wood) in the Grand Duchy of Finland, as follows:—

On the 19th August at "Jyväskylä," 140,756 logs from the districts of Vasa and Jämsä.

On the 21st at Tammerfors, 172,110 logs from the district of Abo, and 5,000 cubic metres of firewood (birch) from that of Kankaanpää.

On the 26th at Viborg, 102,996 logs from the St. Michel district, and 27,200 cubic metres of firewood.

On the 26th at Kuspio, 9,680 logs from Idensalmi district, and on the 29th at Joensuu, 2,216 logs from Kuspio district.

There will thus be sold a total of 1,867,928 logs, 24,000 cubic metres of pulp-wood, and 32,200 cubic metres of firewood.

Detailed particulars (in Swedish) of these auctions may also be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

DENMARK.

Army Clothing Supplies.

The "Berlingske Tidende" of the 14th June contains a notice calling for tenders for the supply to the Danish Army Clothing depôt of various quantities of cloth, gold and silver lace, tassels, hats, metal distinction marks, &c.

Tenders will be received up to 10 a.m. on the 29th June, at the offices of the Army Supply Department ("Materielintendanturens Kontor") 11, Rigensgade, Copenhagen, where samples and con-

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ditions may be inspected on any day between the hours of 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. A list in Danish of the articles required, with quantities, may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

BELGIUM.

Port Works.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" of 16th June announces that tenders, which will be opened on 27th July, at the "Direction du service spécial de la côte, 1 square Stéphanie, Ostend," are invited for the construction of a quay wall on the eastern side of the dry dock, and of a water wing in the wet dock at the port of Blankerberghe, at the upset price of 647,379 frs. (about 25,895*l.*).

Specifications (No. 63, price 60 centimes) and plans (price 7 frs.) may be obtained from the above address. Tenders will be received until the 23rd July, a deposit of 32,000 fr. (about 1,280*l.*) being required to qualify any tender.

SPAIN.

Submarine Telegraph Materials.

With reference to the notification on p. 387 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 1st June of a Royal Order sanctioning the expenditure of 290,000 pesetas (about 8,772*l.*) on carrying out repairs to submarine cables, it is noted that the "Gaceta de Madrid" of 12th June contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened 15 days after the publication of the notice, at the Directorate-General of Posts and Telegraphs, Madrid, for carrying out these repairs, in accordance with conditions set forth in the "Gaceta." A deposit of 10,000 pesetas (about 602*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

Electric Cranes.

The "Gaceta" of 16th June contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 15th September, at the offices of the Port Works Board, Alicante, for the supply of two electric cranes, with a capacity of 10,000 and 1,500 kilogs. respectively, fitted with revolving cages, in accordance with conditions, &c., on view at the above-mentioned offices, at the upset price of 107,010 pesetas (about 3,222*l.*). A deposit of 1,500 pesetas (about 45*l.*) is required to qualify any tender.

N.B.—It is notified from H.M. Embassy at Madrid that a foreigner, when entering into contracts for the performance of public works in Spain, must renounce by public act all rights to which he might be entitled by virtue of the law of his own country in so far as his contract is concerned, and accept any administrative decisions that may be issued respecting questions arising from that contract.

In entering into such contracts a local agent is a practical necessity.

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Openings for British Trade.

ITALY—SICILY.

Railway Construction.

According to the report for 1904 of H.M. Consul at Palermo (Mr. Sidney Churchill), the principal railway lines projected in Sicily are the following:—(1) Castelvetrano-Menfi-Sciacca, connecting with the Trapani system; (2) Sciacca-Porto Empedocle, joining the Sicula trunk line; (3) Assoro-Piazza Armerina, connecting with the Sicula; (4) Paterno-Nicosia, connection with the Etna Railway; (5) San Carlo-Sciacca, connecting with Corleone Railway.

For the San Carlo-Sciacca narrow-gauge line the Government offers a concession of 70 years with a kilometric subsidy of 8,500 fr. For the Paterno-Nicosia line the subsidy per kilometre has been raised to 7,500 fr. All further particulars regarding the conditions of the contracts can be obtained on direct application to the Minister of Public Works at Rome. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,396.)

BULGARIA.

Arms and Ammunition.

The Acting British Vice-Consul at Varna (Lieut.-Col. P. Massy) remarks in his recent report that the Near East has become an excellent market in arms and ammunition for France, Germany and Austria-Hungary, although the share of the United Kingdom is trifling. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,395.)

SERVIA.

Building Construction.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels), of 16th June, states that tenders will be opened on 8th July, at the Ministry of Public Works, Belgrade, for the construction of a palace for the National Assembly, at the estimated cost of 2,079,700 frs. (about 83,184*l.*).

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Tramway Construction in Asia Minor.

On pp. 545-6 will be found an article giving particulars of the existing tramway lines in the chief towns of Asia Minor, together with remarks on possible openings for the construction of fresh lines.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

List of Articles needed by the Isthmian Canal Commission.

Adverting to the notice published on p. 438 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 8th June, respecting a list of articles needed by the Isthmian Canal Commission, H.M. Consul at Panama (Mr. C. C. Mallet, C.M.G.), has now forwarded a further list of articles for which the purchasing agent of the Commission will soon call for tenders.

This list may be examined at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

MEXICO.

Automobiles.

From a report drawn up by the Belgian Legation in Mexico City, it appears that the use of automobiles in that city shows a steady increase, although the area within which these vehicles can circulate is somewhat limited, owing to the poor state of most of the roads in the State of Mexico and the Federal District. The authorities have lately carried out some improvements on the roads in the immediate vicinity of the capital, and it is rumoured that they intend to reconstruct the old Spanish highways to Cuernavaca and Toula. The carrying out of these works is likely to increase the demand for automobiles, of which there are said to be over 400 in the city.

The general opinion in Mexico is that American are more suitable than French tyres for bad roads and hard wear; the former are, however, the more costly. The favourite cars are electric voiturettes, sold at 160*l.* to 200*l.*, and a car of American manufacture of from 8 to 15 horse-power.

Railway Plant.

The Mexican "Diario Oficial" of 23rd May contains the text of a concession granted to Señor Eugeñio J. Canas for the construction and working, for 99 years, of a railway (60 centimetre gauge) from Zacatepec to Jojutla or Tlaquitenango, in the State of Morelos, with a branch line to the Hacienda de San Nicolas. Two years are allowed for the free importation of materials and goods referred to in Article 74 of the Railway Law.

CUBA.

Candles.

In a recent report by the Belgian Consul-General at Havana he points out that the imports of candles into Cuba, which formerly came almost exclusively from Spain, owing to the preferential tariff enjoyed by that country's wares, are now to some extent divided amongst other nations. But although the imports of these goods from Spain show a large diminution, even now they form by far the largest portion of the total of candles imported. Spanish candles are inferior to those sent from other countries, but they are cheap and greatly in demand amongst the poorer classes, who are still influenced by the vogue they enjoyed at the time when they practically monopolised the market. M. Renoz remarks that American manufacturers forward their goods in bulk packed in wooden cases each containing 360 candles. This method is worth following, he adds, as it results in a saving of packing expenses, import duties, and even freight charges when these latter are based on cubic capacity.

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British Trade Abroad.

one meets hawking cigar cases, spectacles, and sham jewellery. On their way from Germany to Portugal they obtain orders in Switzerland, Italy, the South of France, and Spain, for they speak fluently the four languages of these countries. The cheapness of their goods appeals to small traders, and in the event of hesitation they generally clinch the deal with the concession of a term of credit far longer than French travellers grant. . . . .

"The French exporter is generally timid of embarking on expenditure in order to secure trade: he imagines that if he obtains the address of a good representative from his Consul extensive business will immediately result. Here is a characteristic instance: a large French firm of scent manufacturers write to the Consul asking him to recommend a representative, but they insist that he shall communicate with them at fixed dates, even when he has no orders to send; they will not forward samples, because, they say, it is useless to do so, but, in reality, because they are loth to incur even a slight expense before reaping profit; and, moreover, when applying for a representative, they ask to be supplied with the addresses of all likely purchasers of perfumes in the town, in the hope of dealing directly with them, and thus forestalling their agent.

"I cannot insist too strongly on the futility of such methods of doing business, and by way of contrast I point out the tactics of their rivals. A German exporter would not only have forwarded samples, but would have sent an agent with them to select a local representative. I believe it is not generally known that big firms of exporters from Germany have in many instances two classes of agents for the same foreign town: the representative established there, in constant touch with clients, and the traveller who calls on firms once or twice a year accompanied by this representative to whom he brings fresh samples, together with exhaustive information as to the prices and qualities of the most recent products of the firm. He is at the same time able to gather from the local agent details of the tastes of the inhabitants and the fashions in vogue, as well as first-hand information as to the financial standing of clients. These methods undoubtedly entail a large expenditure, which is, however, amply justified by their success."

M. André adds that the Belgians, working on the same lines as the Germans, have proved equally successful, their exports to Spain having quadrupled in thirty years.

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TRADE OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND BRITISH POSSESSIONS.

The following summary table has been prepared in the Board of Trade, showing the total imports and exports of merchandise of the principal countries for which the particulars can be given up to March, 1905, inclusive, and referring in all cases to the same period, viz., the three months ended March. The corresponding figures for 1904 and 1903 are added for comparison :—

—	Imports (*see* NOTE that follows tables). Three Months ended March.			Exports (Domestic) (*see* NOTE that follows tables). Three Months ended March.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Germany	75,555,000	80,347,000	80,321,000	59,234,000	62,065,000	63,974,000
Belgium*	23,657,000	26,832,000	28,221,000	18,545,000	19,031,000	20,289,000
France...	63,412,000	60,739,000	59,734,000	52,175,000	54,028,000	53,459,000
Switzerland	10,757,000	11,235,000	11,721,000	8,780,000	8,810,000	9,093,000
Spain*...	8,025,000	7,994,000	9,023,000	7,797,000	8,062,000	7,586,000
Italy	18,671,000	19,276,000	19,393,000	15,655,000	13,891,000	14,533,000
Austria-Hungary ...	19,496,000	21,797,000	22,350,000	20,276,000	21,261,000	19,138,000
Egypt	3,954,000	4,398,000	4,965,000	5,893,000	7,455,000	5,647,000
United States... ...	55,006,000	54,783,000	64,975,000	79,894,000	77,956,000	75,609,000
Japan	8,467,000	9,408,000	13,231,000	6,067,000	7,084,000	7,231,000
British India... ...	13,786,000	15,689,000	16,473,000	25,653,000	30,016,000	27,815,000
Canada	10,883,000	11,248,000	11,714,000	7,733,000	6,683,000	6,588,000
United Kingdom ...	115,956,000	119,836,000	119,032,000	72,787,000	72,230,000	78,330,000

* Value of *principal* articles only.

A comparison of the total figures for the four months ended 30th April is possible for four countries, as follows, viz.:—

—	Imports (*see* NOTE). Four Months ended April.			Exports (Domestic) (*see* NOTE). Four Months ended April.		
	1903.	1904.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Belgium*	31,847,000	35,399,000	37,352,000	24,580,000	25,556,000	26,963,000
France...	66,905,000	64,666,000	64,835,000	55,988,000	57,739,000	59,329,000
United States ...	73,273,000	72,184,000	84,899,000	102,330,000	100,346,000	101,888,000
United Kingdom ...	153,132,000	158,253,000	155,966,000	95,924,000	95,715,000	102,463,000

* Value of *principal* articles only.

NOTE.—In the case of Germany, Belgium, France, Switzerland, Italy, Austria-Hungary, Egypt, Japan, Canada *and United Kingdom*, the import figures given in the above summaries represent imports for home consumption only, *i.e.*, excluding re-exports. In all cases the export figures are intended to represent exports of domestic produce. In most cases, however, they include a certain amount of "nationalised" goods, *i.e.*, goods originally imported for consumption, and which, if dutiable, have been charged with duty, but which are subsequently re-exported.

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Trade of Foreign Countries and British Possessions.

The latest figures available as regards other countries from which returns are received by the Board of Trade, are as follow:—

—	Imports.			Exports (Domestic).		
	1902.	1903.	1904.	1902.	1903.	1904.
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Russia* (12 months) ...	55,844,000	63,609,000	61,608,000	87,127,000	100,243,000	100,806,000
Portugal (11 months) ..	11,3[illegible]2,000	12,212,000	12,777,000	5,915,000	6,332,000	6,389,000
	1903	1-04.	1905.	1903.	1904.	1905.
Mexico† (1 month) ...	1,195,000	1,315,000	1,538,000	1,307,000	1,784,000	1,632,000

* European and Black Sea Frontiers.

† The values of the imports are stated in gold, and the dollar has been converted into English currency at the rate of 4s. The values of the exports are stated in silver, and the dollar has been converted into English currency for the years 1903, 1904, and 1905, at 1s. 8d., 1s. 10d. and 2s. respectively. The figures for Mexico include bullion and specie.

For detailed particulars regarding the trade of the several countries, reference should be made to the "Accounts relating to the Trade and Commerce of certain Foreign Countries and British Possessions," including figures received up to 31st May, to be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Limited, Fetter Lane, E.C.

STATE OF TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN POLAND.

A despatch dated 12th June has been received at the Foreign Office from H.M. Consul-General at Warsaw (Col. A. P. Murray) enclosing a report embodying information obtained by him at Lodz, Czenstochowa and Bialystok, as to the present state of the textile industry in Poland of which those places are the chief centres.

"The year 1905 opened with prospects of general improvement in trade, particularly in the textile industry, which is the most important in this Consular district and that in which Great Britain is chiefly interested. The outbreak of the war had upset the general trade of the country, one result of which was to restrict credits and dispel confidence amongst manufacturers and merchants. The natural consequence of this was to pull up a great many of the weaker firms who had been trading beyond their means. As the war dragged on, however, people began to get used to it as a thing that had to be, and gradually settled down to business again.

"Buyers had evidently held off as long as they could, and were becoming compelled to replenish their stocks which were exhausted, and a general feeling that the worst was over and that better times were coming began to prevail amongst manufacturers in this district.

"This comfortable feeling was, however, rudely broken in upon towards the end of January by a general strike of the workers.

"Absolutely all mills and works were shut down for three or four weeks, that is to say, during the month of February, and since

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then, intermittent stoppages of one mill or another have kept the struggle going up to the present, so that, although the situation is better than it was, it cannot yet be considered as altogether normal.

"One result of these labour troubles has been to bring about a shortage of goods so that the immediate outlook is promising if only a satisfactory understanding can be come to between the mill owners and their employees. . . . .

"The state of trade is considerably better than it was; it is expected that it will go on improving, and that after peace is declared there will be a 'boom' in all branches of trade. This is likely to last for a few years during which time the mill owners will pretty certainly increase their productive capacity. But it is well to bear in mind that the firms most likely to extend are not the big mill owners, but rather the smaller firms who will probably suffer subsequently from the over production that is sure to follow. The big mill owners bought their experience in this respect five years ago, and are not likely to be caught again.

"The 'boom' is not likely to last more than four to five years, and will be followed most probably by the usual collapse that is brought about by over production and over speculation. The Polish industrial district is more likely to suffer in this direction than those of Moscow and St. Petersburg for the reason that, with few exceptions, the firms are younger and have not the same resources.

"There are already numerous enquiries for new **machinery** and sundries, and a good proportion of the consequent orders ought to go to British firms.

"Certain kinds of **cotton yarns** are already scarce, for instance, 20*s*. to 30*s*. water twist, and 20*s*. 2*d*., 30*s*. 2*d*., 40*s*. 2*d*., and 44*s*. 2*d*. twisted yarns, and it is expected that this scarcity will be kept up for some time to come, as most of the spinners are already producing all they possibly can, and are still not able to satisfy the demands they are getting. In some instances mills are even working with a double set of hands.

"A feature in the Polish textile industry is that some of the older and larger firms are allowing themselves to be passed by their younger competitors. This is owing to bad organisation and divided responsibility. When they were managed by the original founders, men who had every detail at their fingers ends, and who worked the business as a whole, they made all the departments work together for the good of all; but now that each department is managed by a separate director there are several influences at work where formerly there was only one, and there is no one man who can possibly pick up the threads of the business that fell from the hands of the original founder, the son or nominal owner of the business, when there is one, not having worked up the business from the bottom. . . . ."

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COTTON GROWING IN THE EASTERN PROVINCES OF PERSIA.

In the reports from Persia by the Commercial Mission which recently visited that country from India, references are made to the question of cotton growing in that country.

In the Provinces of Sirjan and Rafsinjan the opinion is expressed that cotton can be grown profitably in both.

Mr. Newcomen writes from **Bunder Abbas**:—"The clean cotton is made up in bundles and packed in bags unpressed. The unclean cotton comes down in half-pressed bales, measuring 3 ft. 6 in. by 2 ft. on the average, and weighing from 2 to 3 maunds (Delhi). The freightage on cleaned cotton from this port to Bombay is about Rs. 4 per bale, and uncleaned Rs. 3. The cleaned cotton costs here about Rs. 27 per Delhi maund and the uncleaned cotton Rs. 18, making the average cost for each variety in Bombay Rs. 31 and Rs. 21, so I am informed, but I have no figures to check or to verify this statement.

"Formerly there used to be a large export trade in cotton through this port from the interior, but this has of late years been diverted northward through the Caspian ports to Russia, where a strong demand has grown up. The comparatively greater ease and security of the northward route through Shahrud to the Caspian ports had also done much to assist in this diversion of trade. Lately, however, owing to the war and to internal depression, the Russian demand has fallen off, and if a strong Indian demand arises the southward trade to this port is certain to revive."

In regard to cotton from the **Sirjan** district, however, Mr. Newcomen writes later from Saiidabad:—"The Sirjan district produces some 2,000 maunds (Indian) a year. All this is consumed locally, either in the manufacture of a coarse, thin cloth, of which about 100,000 zer are used a year, or for the woof for carpets. There are no prospects of increasing the cultivation of cotton, as the water supply is limited and food-crops have to be raised. The staple too, is short, too short, I think, for use in our Indian mills."

Again from **Kerman**, Mr. Newcomen writes:—"Three thousand kharwars are produced, of which 500 are used at home, the rest being exported mainly north, through Shahrud to Russia. The proportion of the cotton sent north, as compared with that going to India *via* Bunder Abbas, has for many years been as 9 to 1. and this, notwithstanding the greater cost of carriage to Shahrud (13 to 20 tomans per kharwar) as compared with that to Bunder Abbas (6½ to 12 tomans per kharwar). This difference in the cost of carriage is due, apart from the greater length of the Shahrud journey, to the fact that camels going to Shahrud have mostly to return empty, whilst those going to Bunder Abbas can always find cargoes to carry back. The prices offering in the north have

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Cotton Growing in the Eastern Provinces of Persia.

not been much more enticing than those offering in the south. Seventy to 90 tomans per kharwar at Shahrud as compared with 60 to 80 tomans at Bunder Abbas, whilst the rates of carriage to the north are, of course, very much greater. There has so far been a strong demand in the north, whilst demand was weak in the south. This northern demand was always more or less artificial (see Mr. H. W. MacLean's* report, page 34, paragraph 54), and the war has caused a slump, which has ruined many of the smaller merchants. Northern caravans are now returning with last year's cotton, consequently it is anticipated that much of this will be sent down to Bunder Abbas. The cotton is short stapled, but an improvement, I think, on the cotton of Sirjan. There is, it is declared, a possibility of the cultivation being increased, should demand increase.

"The cotton season extends, as in Sirjan, from April to October, and the methods of cultivation are the same in both places. Attempts have been made to introduce a long stapled cotton, but these have failed so far, owing, it is stated, to the summer being so short. There are at present some four cotton presses in Bahramabad, but there is no room for the establishment of a ginning mill. An American ginning machine has been tried, but turned out a failure, as it broke the staple and made the cotton almost useless. Hence cotton is hand-cleaned as in parts of India, but the exported cotton is mostly sent out in a half-cleaned condition.

"Ten maunds of cotton pods yield about 3 maunds of maluj (half cleaned cotton), and those 3 maunds yield about 2½ maunds of finest cleaned. The local cost of the maluj is from 35 to 38 tomans per kharwar.

"For export this is packed in sacks and half pressed bales for convenience of carriage. Camels take from 50 to 70, and donkeys from 24 to 34 maunds (Tabriz)."

In a later report from Bam Mr Newcomen writes:—"Raw cotton, sown March—April, picked October—November. Crop 100,000 maunds (Tabriz), yielding 30,000 maunds of cleaned cotton. Price spot 37 to 38 tomans per Kharvar cleaned. This has so far all been used at home. This year, however, Arab Ardeshir sent a trial shipment of 3,000 maunds to Bombay."

* "British Trade in Persia." [Cd. 2146.] Price 1*s.* 3*d.* Obtainable from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

Toman = 2¼ rupees. Kharwar = 5·8 cwt. Maund (Tabriz) = 6½ lbs. avoir. Zer varies from 25 to 44 inches. The Zer in general use measures 40·95 inches. Imperial Indian maund = about 82⅔ lbs.

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COTTON GROWING IN COLOMBIA.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a memorandum by the British Vice-Consul at Bogota (Mr. Spencer S. Dickson) on the subject of the planting and cultivation of cotton in the Republic of Colombia, from which the following particulars are extracted:—

Replying to Mr. Dickson's questions, the British Vice-Consul at **Medellin** (Mr. William Gordon) states that although up to the present time cotton cultivation in his district has only been undertaken in a very insignificant way, the soil is decidedly suitable for it, the cotton plant growing wild in the interior. He adds that two kinds of cotton can be produced. Mr. Gordon transmits samples* of these two varieties, of which No. 1 grows wild and No. 2 is a cultivated specimen.

In a communication received from Mr. Mansel Carr, British Vice-Consul at **Santa Marta**, he stated that his experimental crop had proved a failure, owing, in his opinion, to the soil being too rich and moist. The crop was a very heavy one, so that the branches and even the plants themselves bent over with the weight, but the bolls failed to mature properly, a fact which he is unable to account for satisfactorily. It may be that Riofrio is too far from the sea for the successful cultivation of the sea-island variety of cotton. Mr. Carr has now given some of the seed to a native planter who is going to try it in the neighbourhood, where the soil is lighter and reached by the sea breezes.

Mr. Dickson's enquiries have, thus far, elicited information regarding a portion of the Atlantic coast and the department of Antioquia. The prospects in Santa Marta are still dependent upon the result of future experiments in Antioquia (district of Medellin), as also in the interior generally, but there is little doubt that the soil is favourable to cotton planting. For exporting purposes, however, there lies a serious obstacle in the poor and expensive means of communication with the coast, and this will only be remedied when the country is opened up by railway communication. Of this there is now some hope, as a contract for the opening of a railway from the Darien to Medellin has just been granted to an American. There remains the Cartagena district, and according to information received, this region possesses two distinct advantages, *i.e.*, the adaptability of the soil, and the Cartagena railway, which provides an easy and rapid means of access to the shipping port.

* These samples may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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TRAMWAYS IN ASIA MINOR.

The following particulars of existing tramway lines in Asia Minor, with remarks on possible openings for the construction of fresh lines, are taken from a report by M. J. Duckerts, Belgian Consul-General at Smyrna, based on observations made by him during a series of tours of inspection undertaken at the request of the Belgian Government.

The only towns in Asiatic Turkey possessing tramways are Smyrna, Tripoli and Bagdad.

In **Smyrna** the "Compagnie des Quais" work an animal traction line, 3½ kiloms. long, between the Aïdin railway station and the Government House. A tramway belonging to native capitalists continues this line for a distance of 5 kiloms., terminating beyond the thickly inhabited suburb of Gueuz-Tepe. In 1903, the Municipality of Smyrna inaugurated a branch, 1,500 metres in length, from the first-named line to Halka Bounar. At various times the question of constructing a tramway in the interior of the town has been mooted. The streets in this quarter are, however, so narrow and tortuous that numerous demolitions would have to be undertaken; the cost of these has been estimated at 800,000 fr. This heavy charge would naturally handicap the enterprise; but, nevertheless, it is believed that it would prove a financial success. Suggestions have also been made for extending the Gueuz-Tepe line as far as Vurla and Chesine: the first-named town is situated 45 kiloms. and the second more than 100 kiloms. from the existing terminus. For such distances as these it would be necessary to resort to steam or electricity. Until 1902 the use of electricity for this purpose was forbidden in Turkey: its application to traction and lighting is now allowed in Salonica, Smyrna, and Damascus, and the substitution of electric for animal traction has been considered. Horses are, however, very cheap in Smyrna; the tramway companies hardly ever pay more than £8 a head for them, selling them for half price at the end of three years' work, while the cost of a horse's keep is covered by 6d. a day.

Tripoli is divided into two parts: the harbour and the inner town, distant about 3 kiloms. from one another. These are connected by a tramway (a native enterprise), the material for which was imported from the United Kingdom. Although the fare for the whole distance is only five centimes, the returns show large profits.

Bagdad is connected with Kamazene by a tramway 8 kiloms. long, constructed in 1871, belonging to a native company, the shares of which, issued at £T2½, are now worth £T10. Belgian material was originally used on this line; this has now been partially replaced by British and German material. The fare for the whole distance is 20 centimes. A scheme for constructing another tramway 10 kiloms. long in Bagdad, under the auspices of a native company, is said to be well advanced.

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Tramways in Asia Minor.

M. Duckerts makes the following remarks on the possibilities of constructing new lines in the towns he visited:—

"It would not be impossible to extend the **Smyrna** system, although very considerable expense would be incurred owing to the number of streets that would have to be widened; but as regards extensions outside the town it is a question whether sufficient traffic would result.

"The town of **Broussa** is very hilly. I have, however, seen tramways worked under much more difficult conditions, more especially in Belgrade. As the railway station is some distance from the towns, it might perhaps prove more profitable to construct a few kiloms. of electric tramway. Broussa is only 40 kiloms. from the sea, and is connected by railway with the port of Mudania; fuel could thus be obtained at moderate cost, and I am moreover assured that the waters of the river running through the town could be utilised for the production of motive power.

"**Aleppo**. In the old town the streets are narrow and tortuous to a degree which renders circulation difficult, if not impossible for ordinary vehicles; it is therefore out of the question to think of running a tramway.

"The modern town, on the other hand, has some very large thoroughfares; it should be noted, however, that this quarter is at present thinly populated, and that the houses are very scattered, so that it would be premature to entertain the idea of establishing a new means of transport.

"**Beyrouth** is a hilly town, ill adapted to tramway construction; but my remarks concerning Broussa are applicable here. With the help of a narrow gauge, light rolling stock and electric traction, the confined streets and steep inclines should not prove insurmountable obstacles. The same remarks apply to **Jerusalem**.

"**Damascus** seems to me a more favourable field for enterprise. The town is very scattered; the Hawran railway station is very remote from the Beyrouth railway station, and traffic is very heavy along the whole of the route between the two.

"The town of **Bassorah** is connected with the harbour by a paved road, 3 kiloms. long, admirably adapted for the installation of a tramway. The stream of traffic along this road is great; but it would be necessary to reckon with the competition of asses, omnibuses and carriages, with extremely low tariffs. However, the tramways at Tripoli make large profits, although they charge only 5 centimes a head for a distance of 3 kiloms.; similar conditions obtain at Bagdad when a journey of 8 kiloms. only costs 20 centimes. It must be remembered that the purchase and keep of horses cost infinitely less than in Europe, that most primitive material can be utilised, and that wages are extremely low."

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

NEW ZEALAND.

Production of Original Manufacturers' Invoices.

The Board of Trade have received from the High Commissioner for New Zealand information to the effect that the Regulation recently made by the New Zealand Customs authorities, requiring that goods imported into New Zealand should be accompanied by the original manufacturers' invoices, has been postponed, and will not be brought into force until 1st September of the present year.

NORWAY.

Tariff Modifications (*continued from p.* 501 *of last week's "Journal"*).

[Krona = 1*s.* 1½*d.* Kilog. = 2·2046 lbs.]

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
			Kron.	Kron.
	Potatoes—			
507	Fresh	100 kilogs.	Free	0·50
508	Dried	Kilog.	0·15	0·20
[704]	Polishing paste, liquid or solid (cream and paste)*	"	15 % *ad val.*	0·30
	Travelling bags, trunks, portmanteaux, hat boxes, satchels, and similar bags and boxes for travellers—			
511	Of leather, or covered with leather	"	2·00	2·25
512	Of oilcloth, woollen, cotton, hemp, linen or similar tissue, combined or not with leather or other materials	"	0·80	1·00
523	Plaited manufactures of reed, cane, or bamboo	"	0·60	0·75
[569]	All unsplit cane, further manufactured than merely cut into fixed lengths (including also material for walking-sticks and for umbrella or parasol-sticks) ...	"	1·50	1·00

* Including weight of immediate receptacle.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
			Kron.	Kron.
528	Medicinal salts	Kilog.	15 % *ad val.*	0·20
	Rushes, manufactures of—			
538	Cordage	"	0·05	0·07
539	Other (*i.e.*, other than packing material, baskets, brooms, and brushes)	"	0·10	0·20
	Skins weighing under 1 kilog. each*—			
548	Other than glove leather ...	"	1·00	1·50
	Saddlery not specially mentioned—			
*ex*549	With gilt, silvered, or plated mountings	"	2·00	4·00
551	Other, not mounted, except whips but including trusses	"	0·80	1·00
	Shoemakers' wares—			
*ex*553	Of lacquered, shagreened, bronzed, tawed, varnished, or coloured leather, combined or not with other leather	"	3·00	4·50
555	Of skin or leather (greased leather excepted) treated otherwise than as above ...	"	1·75	2·00
555	Sea boots and other shoemakers' wares of greased leather	"	1·75	1·50
	Furs—			
557–9	Undressed, of all kinds ...	"	Various rates, according to kind.	Free
	Dressed, separate or sewn together—			
561	Pennsylvania, sable, marten	"	4·00	8·00
	Black fox, silver fox, and blue fox	"	0·50	
560–2	Beaver, pole-cat, chinchilla, mink, skunk ...	"	As undressed skins with surtax of 20 %	5·00
	Other kinds	"	0·50	1·50
*ex*563	Manufactured furs (including caps of sable, marten, and Pennsylvania skins), pay duty as dressed skins with a surtax of 200 per cent.†			
569	Walking sticks of all kinds, and fishing rods	"	1·50	2·00
570	Mirrors	"	0·30	0·60
573	Whetstones	"	0·02	0·05

* Weighing *2 kilogs. or less* in the old Tariff.
† 150 per cent. in the former Tariff.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
			Kron.	Kron.
*ex*576	Flagstones and pipes of cement...	100 kilogs	Various rates.	0·75
578	Castings and moulds of gypsum, chalk or the like	Kilog.	0·10	0·15
580	Manufactures of marble, porphyry, syenite, granite, labradorite, sandstone and similar stones (except paving stones and rough-hewn blocks), weighing over 3 kilogs. each; also slabs polished or not	"	0·03	0·05
581	Other manufactures of the above-mentioned stones; also those of alabaster, "*kalipasta*" and the like	"	0·30	0·40
584	Starch and starch gum (dextrin) and potato meal*	"	0·10	0·13
	Straw, manufactured—			
587	Cordage	"	0·05	0·07
588	Floor mats and other similar coarse plaited wares; also straw envelopes for bottles	"	0·10	0·20
597	Printing inks	"	0·05	0·07
598	Shoe blacking and other leather polish*	"	0·10	0·15
	Stove polish*	"	Free	
[303]	Carbonic acid, liquid	"	0·05	0·06
	Wood and manufactures thereof—			
617	Trays, bowls, &c., weighing not over 1½ kilogs.—			
	Lacquered and polished..	"	0·40	0·60
	Profiled mouldings	"	not separately mentioned	0·20
620	Blocks and spools	"	Free	0·10
623	Tables, sofas, and chairs, not upholstered; also brackets and frames for mirrors at least 1 metre in height, of pear, rosewood, walnut, mahogany, and other exotic woods, as well as those veneered with the same; also gilt, of any kind of wood...	"	0·50	0·60
624	Other cabinet makers' wares of the same kinds of wood.	"	0·35	0·40
ex 630	Staves, wrought, and other coopers' wares, of oak ...	"	0·05	0·10
631	Cigar boxes and cigar-box boards	"	0·10	0·20
[495]	Sticks for umbrellas and parasols, parts of such sticks or of walking-sticks, not further manufactured than merely cut into fixed lengths	"	0·80	1·00

* Including weight of immediate packing.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

NORWAY—*continued.*

Tariff No.	Articles.	Unit.	Rate of Duty. Old.	Rate of Duty. New.
	Wood and manufactures—*contd.*			
636	"Other" manufactured wooden wares (*i.e.*, other than those separately mentioned in the Tariff) ...	Kilog.	Kron. 0·07	Kron. 0·20
	Tissues waterproofed, painted, varnished, or coated with caoutchouc, gutta-percha, or oil, or with paper-pulp—			
641	Carpets, tarpaulins; also other wares weighing 470 grammes or more to the half metre square	"	0·15	0·18
646–8	Watches, including pocket chronometers	each	5·00* / 2·00† / 1·00‡	1·00
649	Table clocks: duty not to exceed	"	—	12·00
	Woollen manufactures—			
656	Woollen yarn, undyed ...	kilog.	0·15	0·20
657	" " dyed or mixed; also all yarn mixed with metal thread	"	0·25	0·30
ex 660	Carpets and carpeting ...	"	0·50	0·60
	Hosiery, knitted, crocheted, netted or woven, dyed or not; also finished articles of clothing—			
661	Stockings, jackets, mittens, coarse	"	0·50	0·75
663	Other (except that with embroidery, &c.), including scarves of all kinds	"	1·30	1·50
664	Tissues combined with india-rubber, gutta percha or the like; and belts thereof ...	"	1·10	1·50
	"Other" woollen manufactures (*i.e.*, other than those named in the Tariff)—			
667	Tissues weighing 55 grammes or less per sq. half metre; also kerchiefs, table and other covers; tissues for furniture and curtains, such as damask, rep, plush, &c. ...	"	1·50	1·75
668	Other	"	1·00	1·50
678	Locomotives and tenders ...	"	0·08	10 % *ad val.*
679–81	Railway and tramway cars; motor vehicles of all kinds and trollies	—	Various rates	12 % "
700	Shuttles, healds, pickers and the like	kilog.	0·05	0·10

* Gold. † Silver. ‡ Other.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

SPAIN.

Rate of Exchange for Adjustment of Customs Duties payable in Gold.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 16th June contains a Royal Order notifying that the average rate of exchange (premium of exchange on Paris) during the first fortnight of June was 32·01 per cent., and that the corresponding reduction in payments of Customs duties which have to be made in gold during the second fortnight of the present month is to be 24 per cent.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Customs Decisions.

The following is the substance of some Decisions affecting the application of the United States Customs Tariff, which have recently been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington :—

Value of Mexican Dollars.—On and after 1st May, 1905, the silver dollar of Mexico will be valued at 0·498 dols. The duties on merchandise imported from countries other than Mexico, invoiced in so-called Mexican dollars, will be computed on the bullion value as heretofore.

Cuban pesos.—The Cuban peso is not a "standard coin or currency in circulation" in the sense of section 2 of the Customs Administrative Act of 1890. Invoices made out in such "pesos" will not be accepted by collectors, and American Consular officers in Cuba are instructed to refuse to certify invoices made out in Cuban pesos.

Watch bracelets.—Watches set in or mounted upon metal bracelets are not dutiable with the latter at the rate of 60 per cent. *ad valorem* under paragraph 434 of the Tariff. Watch movements imported with or without cases or mounts are dutiable at the *ad valorem* and appropriate specific rates provided in paragraph 191. Metal bracelets being commonly known as jewellery, the fact that watches may be attached thereto in any manner, permanently or temporarily, does not remove such bracelets from classification as jewellery and assessment of duty at the rate of 60 per cent. *ad valorem* under paragraph 434.

Cylinder glass—Bombés.—Pieces of cylinder glass of different dimensions between 2 and 5 inches in diameter, circular in shape and concave in form, and used as disks for bicycle lamps, dishes for painters, covers for solutions of chemicals, and for other purposes, the same undergoing no further process of manufacture after cutting from the blown glass cylinder than bevelling of the edges, are dutiable at the rate of 1⅜ cents per lb. and 5 per cent. *ad valorem* under the respective provisions of paragraphs 101 and 107 of the Tariff.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Also the following—

Articles.	No. of Paragraph under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.
		Dols. Cts.
Dewghuddy hemp; dutiable as hemp	327	Ton 20 00
Soap pencils used for cleaning spectacles and eye-glasses; dutiable as an unenumerated manufactured article	Sec. 6	20 % *ad val.*
Crayons.—Charcoal crayons, or "fusains" used in drawing or sketching; dutiable as crayons ...	58	30 % "
Glass inkstands with metal covers.—Inkstands with iridescent glass bases, each fitted with an ornamental cover of heavy brass hinged to a ring of the same metal surrounding the neck of the glass base, the metal being the component material of chief value in the completed article; dutiable as unenumerated articles of metal	193	45 % "

Notice of Abandonment of Merchandise to be given in Writing.

Section 23 of the Customs Administrative Act of 1890, as amended by the Act of 17th May, 1898, requires that the abandonment of merchandise under it must be in writing, and the regulations of the Treasury Department contemplate that it should take the form of a written notice.

Amendment of Article 1276 of the Customs Regulations.

Article 1276 of the Customs regulations respecting abatement of duties paid on imported goods in cases where the weight of such goods has increased by the unusual absorption of sea water or moisture, has been modified to read as follows:—

Article 1276.—Whenever the weight of imported merchandise has apparently increased by the unusual absorption of sea water or of moisture, while on the voyage of importation, the weigher shall report the facts in making his return of weight, but no abatement of duties on merchandise on account of such excessive weight will be allowed unless due application in writing for such allowance, accompanied by the oath of the applicant, shall be lodged in the custom-house *within five days after the weigher's return has been rendered.* Previously, ten working days after the landing of the goods were allowed, within which application for abatement had to be made.

MEXICO.

New Tariff of Consular Fees.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, a translation of a Mexican Presidential Decree, dated 18th May, 1905, establishing a new Tariff of fees chargeable by Mexican Consuls or Consular Agents for the certification of invoices, manifests,

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

and other documents. The new Tariff, which is to come into force on the 1st July next, is as follows:—

	Pesos.
I. For the certification of a manifest (except manifests mentioned in paragraph II.)—	
(*a*) If the vessel carries goods destined for the Republic	20·00
(*b*) If the vessel clears in ballast	8·00
II. For the certification of a manifest relating to vessels of less than 50 tons gross carrying capacity, sailing from British Honduras and bound exclusively for the territory of Quintana Roo—	
(*a*) If the vessel carries merchandise	4·00
(*b*) If the vessel clears in ballast	2·00
III. For the certification of each set of consular invoices—	
If the value of the goods declared in the invoice:	
(*a*) Does not exceed 100 pesos, Mexican currency, or the equivalent thereof in the money of the country in which the certification takes place ...	2·00
(*b*) Exceeds 100, but does not exceed 500 pesos ...	4·00
(*c*) Exceeds 500, but does not exceed 1,000 pesos...	6·00
(*d*) Exceeds 1,000 pesos: for every 1,000 pesos or fraction thereof in excess	2·00
(*e*) Should the invoice be presented for certification later than two working days after the departure of the vessel from the port of shipment, the fees indicated in the preceding paragraphs will be doubled.	
(*f*) Certification of consular invoices covering Mexican silver pesos shall be subject to the payment of the fees prescribed under paragraphs (*a*) (*b*) (*c*) and, where necessary, (*d*) of this Section (III.).	
(*g*) Certification of consular invoices covering any other kind of legal gold or silver coin, national or foreign, or current notes of the banks established in the Republic under the law respecting "*Instituciones de Crédito*": provided that these invoices include no other merchandise	Free.
IV. For a certificate issued for any other purpose to masters of vessels or shippers of goods	4·00
V. When the certificates referred to in the preceding section are required in duplicate, triplicate, &c.— for each copy after the first	2·00
VI. For the certification of each set of declarations relative to alterations which may have been made in a manifest subsequent to its legalisation ...	4·00
VII. For the certification of each set of declarations relative to errors noted by shippers subsequent to the legalisation of their invoices	4·00

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

The fees for certificates must be paid in cash, and in the currency of the country in which the Mexican Consuls or Consular Agents reside, calculated at rates of exchange to be fixed in accordance with the official table which will be published by the Ministry of Finance.

BRAZIL.

Increase of Additional Duty on Goods Imported at Rio de Janeiro.

With reference to previous notices which have appeared in the "Journal" respecting the additional duty levied at Rio de Janeiro for the construction of port works, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that this duty was raised on the 15th inst. to 2 per cent. (gold) on the value of imports at that port.

PANAMA.

Customs Treatment of Materials for Panama Canal.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information from H.M. Ambassador at Washington to the effect that goods for use in the construction of the Panama Canal, coming from countries other than the United States, are free of duty.

COLOMBIA.

Tariff Changes—Date of taking effect.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Colombian National Assembly have suppressed Art. 204 of the Colombian Constitution, which provided that no indirect tax or increase of such tax should take effect until after the lapse of six months from the passing of the law establishing such tax or increase. The Executive is thus empowered to put into force decrees relative to changes in the Customs Tariff, &c., from the date of publication thereof, without previous notice.

URUGUAY.

Valuation of Rams for Export.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that a Presidential Decree of the 12th May provides that rams are to be valued for duty on exportation from Uruguay at the rate of 2 dols. per head, instead of at 50 cents as heretofore. Export duty is levied at the rate of 8 per cent. on the official valuation.

PERSIA.

Export of Cereals from Arabistan Permitted.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a despatch from H.M. Consul at Mohammerah reporting that the prohibition against the exportation of cereals from the ports of Arabistan has been removed by the Provincial Customs Administration.

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

AUSTRIA—HUNGARY.

Augmented S.S. Services to Egypt, India, and Argentina.

In a despatch to the Foreign Office, H.M. Consul at Trieste (Mr. J. B. Spence) announces several important reforms in the organisation of the Austrian Lloyds Steamship Company, the principal being as follows:—

The service to Alexandria will be twice per week, carried out by new and fast steamers (not less than 20 knots) with ample passenger accommodation.

The service to Bombay will likewise be improved, as well as that to Constantinople. The voyage to the latter place will be made in 4½ days instead of 6 days as heretofore.

Of new lines, that from Trieste to La Plata—which is now in an experimental stage—will be permanently established, and this will receive Government aid.

The Company also contemplate the improvement of the Calcutta line, also of that to China and Japan, and the continuation of the monthly service to East Africa, extending same to Durban, Port Elizabeth and Cape Town.

For the steamers to be built, the Company are studying various new types of vessels, some of which, as an experiment, will be propelled by turbines.

OTTOMAN EMPIRE.

Proposed Extension of Smyrna-Aidin Railway.

The "Levant Herald" states that the Smyrna-Aidin Railway, which is almost unique, as it is run without a kilometric guarantee and at a profit, wishes to secure an extension of 104 kilometres, enabling it to reach Lake Egirdir, and to have its concession, which expires in 1935, prolonged for another 15 years. It is said also to have applied for permission to establish an Ottoman company to navigate Lake Egirdir, and for preferential rights on equal terms in the construction of any line which may be built in the future from Adalia penetrating into its district.

The Smyrna-Aidin Railway, adds the "Levant Herald," is admittedly one of the best, if not the best, managed in Turkey, and has done exceedingly good work. Since it was built, the revenues of the Smyrna district have been more than quadrupled, owing in large measure to the impetus which the railway has given both to trade and to agriculture.

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MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

NATAL.

Copper.

Reference to the notice on p. 462 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 8th June, the "Natal Mercury" is informed that a syndicate is in course of formation to work a large copper deposit discovered on the Buffalo River on the borders of Natal and Zululand. Assay results are stated to be most promising, and working facilities admirable.

NORWAY.

Pasvik Iron Ore Mines.

The Canadian Commercial Agent at Christiania, in a recent report, states that a contract has been concluded between the Norwegian Agricultural Department on behalf of the State and the owner of extensive iron ore claims on the Pasvik Peninsula (Finmarken), close to the Russian frontier.

The contract is to the effect that the contractor is entitled to work claims covering an area of about 21½ square miles for a royalty of 3 öre (about ⅔*d.*) per ton of iron ore quarried and transported from the deposits, whether to be melted or to be exported in a crude condition.

In connection with the foregoing, H.M. Consul-General at Christiania (Viscount Melville, I.S.O.) reports that the contractor referred to is not the actual owner of the iron ore claims. By the Norwegian mining law the right to work most mineral deposits—essentially the metallic ones—belongs to the finder, who registers a claim in proper form, and gets the right to work a definite area around the place of finding or along the vein. The landowner has, however, the right to participate in the working for one-tenth. The Pasvik belongs to the State, which could claim from the "contractor," or finder, the one-tenth, but agreed instead to take the royalty of 3 öre mentioned.

FRANCE.

Coal Trade of Bordeaux and District.

H.M. Consul at Bordeaux (Mr. R. D. G. Macdonald) reports that the entire importation of coal into Bordeaux and outports in 1904 was 901,665 metric tons, an increase on 1903 of 9,806 tons. The imports of British coal amounted in 1904 to 870,765 tons, an increase over 1903 of 16,202 tons. Of these, 29,248 tons were in the form of British briquettes, an increase over 1903 of 10,441 tons. This item is the more satisfactory seeing that new patent fuel works in Bordeaux have manufactured the well-known Cardiff Anchor Brand during the last six months.

The British Vice-Consul at Bayonne (Mr. P. Schoedelin) reports that in 1904 the total importation of British coal into Bayonne was 246,026 tons, being an increase of 24,243 tons on the previous

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

FRANCE—*continued.*

year. Special attention is drawn to the large quantity of German coal that is continually imported into Bayonne. During the past year no less than 60,000 tons were imported direct *viâ* Rotterdam. The prices varied from 11*s.* 8*d.* to 12*s.* 8*d.* c.i.f. Bayonne, according to the quality and the purpose for which the coal is intended, namely, 11*s.* 8*d.* for steam and 12*s.* 8*d.* washed for coking purposes. The entire quantity was imported by Spanish vessels, carrying about 3,000 tons at the rate of 3*s.* 9*d.* per ton. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,381.)

Possible competition of French with Imported Coals.

The British Vice-Consul at La Rochelle (Mr. C. J. Hans Hamilton) writes with regard to coal:—

"If the proposed reduction in railway rates for native coal in France is carried out, there may in the near future be a considerable diminution in the quantity of coal imported by sea to these ports, which is at present carried inland by rail as far as 200 miles. This would especially affect the small coal imported for the manufacture of coal bricks in France, French coal being already used for that purpose in these parts, though, I believe, in comparatively small quantities. At the present time native coal benefits by a slightly lower tariff than foreign coal." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,381.)

BOLIVIA.

Tin.

Referring to the increase in the production of tin, H.M. Consul at Oruro (Mr. J. Ramsay Smith) reports that only a few years ago the exportation of this metal was so insignificant that but few people in the United Kingdom knew anything about it, and some of these few thought it came from Chile, as it was shipped from a Chilean port.

To-day Bolivia is one of the largest tin producers in the world, and half the output comes from the Oruro district. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,388.)

JAPAN.

Antimony.

H.M. Consul at Kobe (Mr. H. A. B. Bonar) in his recent report gives the yearly output of antimony in the Kobe district at about 500 tons, and states that owing to the war and a purchase of 300 tons by the Government in November, prices have advanced some 20 per cent. At present no stock is available, supplies being contracted for until April. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,387.)

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 17th June, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	31*s.* 7*d.*
Barley	26*s.* 0*d.*
Oats	19*s.* 1*d.*

For further particulars see p. 566.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

Statements are published on pp. 567-8 ,showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the weeks ended the 10th and 17th June, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding weeks of 1904.

FRANCE—COCHIN-CHINA.

Exports of Cotton.

The following table, showing the quantity and value of the exports of ginned and unginned cotton from French Cochin-China in the years 1902 and 1903, is compiled from statistics contained in the recent report (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,378) of the British Vice-Consul at Saigon (Mr. J. L. O'Connell) :—

—	Ginned Cotton.		Unginned Cotton.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
	Kilos.	Dollars.	Kilos.	Dollars.
1902...	1,248,742	462,727	1,398,579	180,515
1903...	1,517,955	562,466	1,736,053	243,355
Increase in 1903 ..	269,213	99,739	337,474	62,840

NOTE.—1 dollar = say, 1*s.* 10½*d.*

BRAZIL.

Agricultural and Dairy Industries: Measures for Encouragement.

H.M. Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. C. B. Rhind) has forwarded to the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade copies of Decrees promulgated by the Government of the State of Rio de Janeiro, with the object of encouraging the development of agricultural and dairy industries within that State :—

Firstly, providing for the establishment of a Public School of

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Agriculture.

BRAZIL—*continued.*

Agriculture, with lands for practical experiments in agriculture and grape-growing.

Secondly, providing for practical instruction on pupils' own lands, by travelling instructors, in ploughing and the use of agricultural implements, machinery and instruments of all kinds.

Thirdly, establishing a prize of 2,000 dols. for the ham curers who, during the year following upon the 1st June, 1905, shall produce a quantity exceeding 3,000 kilos.

Coffee Stock at Rio.

H.M. Consul-General at Rio de Janeiro (Mr. C. B. Rhind) reports that the result of a ballot taken among agents, shippers, and others interested in the coffee trade, for the purpose of obtaining precise returns of the actual stock on the spot, is to the effect that on the 9th May last the local stock at Rio amounted to 211,555 bags.

Local consumption is in future to be computed at 8,000 bags a month instead of 5,000 bags as hitherto.

ARGENTINA.

Orange Cultivation.

An extract from the report by the Auxiliary Immigration Commissioner of Tucuman Province, published in the "Review of the River Plate," states that the soil of Tucuman is eminently suited for the cultivation of the tangerine orange, and that it is difficult to understand why agriculturists neglect a source of profit so easy to control. Plants have been known to yield in a year 800 to 1,000 oranges of good size and excellent quality. The price of tangarines in the market is 70 cents to 1 dol. per dozen. An hectare of plantation will hold 100 to 625 plants. Exporting prospects are said to be excellent.

SAMOA.

Kola, Caoutchouc, Cacao and Cocoanut.

The Acting British Vice-Consul at Apia (Mr. T. Trood), in his report on the trade of Samoa for last year (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,380), gives interesting information as to the local production of kola bean, caoutchouc, cacao and cocoanut (for coprah), and remarks:—"Communications from any firm with regard to tropical industries will receive full attention at the Consulate."

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MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

State of the Labour Market in May, 1905.

A report published in the "Board of Trade Labour Gazette"* of the 16th June, based on 4,896 returns, viz.: 3,470 from Employers, or their Associations, 1,341 from Trade Unions, and 85 from other sources, states that, compared with April, employment in May showed an improvement. In addition to some seasonable improvement in the building, boot and shoe and clothing trades, employment in the metal, engineering, and shipbuilding trades, and in the cotton, woollen, worsted and hosiery trades was better.

As compared with a year ago there was an improvement in the metal, engineering and shipbuilding trades generally, and in the cotton, woollen, worsted, and boot and shoe industries. Employment in the building trades was, however, worse than in May, 1904.

In the 271 Trade Unions, with an aggregate membership of 575,512, making returns, 29,487 (or 5·1 per cent.) were reported as unemployed at the end of May, 1905, as compared with 5·6 in April, 1905, and 6·3 in May, 1904.

* For list of principal contents of the "Board of Trade Labour Gazette," see p. 569.

Fishery Statistics, May, 1905.

The following statement shows the quantity and value of fish landed on the English and Welsh, Scotch, and Irish Coasts during the month and five months ended 31st May, 1905, compared with the corresponding periods of the year 1904:—

—	Month of May.				Five Months ended 31st May.			
	1905.		*1904.*		1905.		*1904.*	
	Quantity.	Value.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*	Quantity.	Value.	*Quantity.*	*Value.*
England and Wales—	Cwts.	£	*Cwts.*	*£*	Cwts.	£	*Cwts.*	*£*
Fish, excluding shell fish	1,148,847	568,945	*874,130*	*480,786*	3,656,380	2,737,781	*3,387,240*	*2,487,863*
Shell fish	—	40,429	—	*28,978*	—	129,776	—	*119,111*
Total Value ...	—	609,374	—	*509,764*	—	2,867,557	—	*2,606,374*
Scotland—								
Fish, excluding shell fish	459,412	167,965	*360,620*	*144,053*	1,743,131	731,590	*1,669,213*	*719,872*
Shell fish	—	8,526	—	*9,510*	—	28,665	—	*31,598*
Total Value ...	—	176,491	—	*153,563*	—	760,255	—	*751,470*
Ireland—								
Fish, excluding shell fish	199,384	58,571	*220,596*	*58,766*	274,029	111,118	*341,330*	*120,682*
Shell fish	—	1,168	—	*879*	—	3,872	—	*3,175*
Total Value ...	—	59,739	—	*59,645*	—	114,990	—	*123,857*

NOTE.—All the above figures are subject to correction in the annual returns.

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Miscellaneous.

UNITED KINGDOM—*continued.*

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 15th June, 1905, was 66,257 (including 3 bales British West African), and the number imported during the 24 weeks ended the 15th June was 2,090,197 (including 2,868 bales British West Indian and 1,352 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 15th June, 1905, 3,269 bales, and for the 24 weeks, 215,018.

For further details see p. 566.

NEWFOUNDLAND.

Seal Fishery of 1905.

A communication, dated 16th May, has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from their correspondent in Newfoundland (Mr. H. W. Le Messurier, Assistant Collector of Customs) containing the following particulars of the seal fishery (one of the staple industries of Newfoundland), which commenced on the 13th March and was concluded on the 1st May.

The seals taken off the coasts of Newfoundland are the harp seal and the hood seal, which come down on the Arctic floe at the beginning of March, riding the floe for the purpose of whelping.

This year twenty-two steamers, specially fitted for contending with the Arctic ice, manned by 3,528 men, brought in 177,100 seals of a gross weight of 4,417 tons and a net weight of 4,189 tons. The value of the skins and fat as sold to the manufacturers is 311,272 dols. This may be considered as only an average fishery and is less than that of last year when twenty-one steamers with 3,328 men brought in 284,473 seals weighing 5,427 tons gross and 5,186 net which sold for 403,794 dols.

The fat is now in process of manufacture into oil and will be marketed later in the season, being principally exported to the United Kingdom. Last year the quantity of oil exported was 2,748 tuns, 1,353 tuns of which went to the United Kingdom, 295 tuns to France, 390 tuns to Germany, 324 tuns to Canada and 386 tuns to the United States. The skins, which make excellent leather, are taken principally by the United Kingdom and the United States. Last year's returns show that 96,264 skins were exported to the United Kingdom, 143 skins to Canada and 147,232 to the United States.

The shortness of catch this year, as compared with last season, is attributable to the ice and weather conditions. The steamers were three days later in starting than they were in previous years.

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Miscellaneous.

NORWAY.

Wood Pulp.

H.M. Consul-General at Christiania (Viscount Melville, I.S.O.) reports that the stocks of both mechanical and chemical wood pulp in Norway are at present very low.

Norway's production of wood pulp in the last three years is estimated to have been as follows :—

1. Chemical wood pulp, calculated dry—

	1902. Tons.	1903. Tons.	1904. Tons.
Cellulose sulphite ...	93,000 ...	96,000 ...	105,700
„ sulphate ...	9,000 ...	9,500 ...	16,700

2. Mechanical wood pulp (for sale), calculated wet—

1902. Tons.	1903. Tons.	1904. Tons.
326,000 ...	313,000 ...	290,000

The anticipated production in 1905 of mechanical wood pulp is estimated at 290,000 tons. Figures showing the anticipated production of cellulose in 1905 are not available.

Stocks on the 1st January of the three last years were as follows :—

1st January, 1903	...	24,055 tons, calculated dry.
„ 1904	...	25,178 „ „ „
„ 1905	...	10,504 „ „ „

Of the stock left on 1st January this year 7,823 tons were sold, thus leaving unsold on that date only 2,681 tons.

GERMANY.

Fishing Industry.

H.M. Consul-General at Hamburg (Sir William Ward, C.V.O.) points out in his recent report that 132 sea-going fishing vessels of an aggregate tonnage of 3,922 tons were on the Hamburg register on 1st January, 1905, showing an increase, compared with the previous year, of only 25 tons. The steam trawlers, included in the foregoing figures, were 12 in number, with a total net tonnage of 396 tons.

Sir William Ward also mentions that it has recently been decided to establish a fish market at Cuxhaven, in addition to the Hamburg and Altona fish markets, as it is thought that the position of Cuxhaven would be more convenient for such a market than that of Hamburg. The project would, it is believed, prove successful provided proper arrangements were made for the rapid transport of the fish to the interior of Germany by express trains from Cuxhaven. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,393.)

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Miscellaneous.

GERMANY—*continued.*

Comparative Trade of Germany and United Kingdom at Hamburg.

The following figures, showing the quantity and value of the imports and exports at Hamburg (by sea) from and to the United Kingdom and Germany during the years 1903–1904, are taken from the same report:—

Imports.

Countries whence Imported.	1903.		1904.	
	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£
United Kingdom ...	69,346,255	20,654,804	67,338,576	20,823,700
Germany	5,736,726	4,093,512	5,428,700	4,107,486

Exports.

Countries to which Exported.	1903.		1904.	
	Cwts.	£	Cwts.	£
United Kingdom ...	28,299,840	23,170,525	25,090,501	21,982,782
Germany	11,877,282	10,568,009	14,352,500	11,850,633

(*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,393.)

FRANCE.

New use for Cork Bark.

H.M. Consul at Nice (Mr. A. McMillan) writes in his recent report:—

"I have been recently informed of a new departure in the cork trade. The bark, after undergoing a pulverising treatment, is subjected to pressure and transformed into slabs, which I understand are used for lining cold storage chambers, &c." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,383.)

FRANCE—NEW CALEDONIA.

Trade in 1904.

According to "La Quinzaine Coloniale," the trade of New Caledonia in 1904 amounted in value to 23,520,154 francs, of which 12,478,662 francs represented imports, and 11,041,492 francs exports.

The total value of the imports and exports in each of the last five years is given as follows:—

—	Imports.	Exports.
	Francs.	Francs.
1900	12,162,251	8,869,716
1901	13,681,939	11,055,892
1902	13,446,179	12,283,225
1903	13,671,998	8,963,895
1904	12,478,662	11,041,492

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Miscellaneous.

The quantity of nickel ore exported amounted to 98,655 tons, as compared with 77,360 tons in 1903. The exports of chrome also showed a large increase in 1904, amounting to 42,197 tons, as compared with 21,437 tons in the preceding year; 8,964 tons of cobalt were exported, as compared with 8,292 tons in 1903. The exports of coffee amounted to 346,353 kilogs., showing a decrease of 280,625 kilogs. from the preceding year; this falling off is due to the unfavourable climatic conditions which obtained throughout the season. The prospects of the coffee crop of 1905 appear, however, exceptionally good, and it is expected that the figures of 1903 will be reached, and possibly surpassed.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

Decreased Import of Wine.

In his report on the trade of Austria-Hungary for 1904, H.M. Consul-General at Vienna (Mr. Paul von Shoeller) states that as a consequence of the repeal of the wine clause of the Commercial Treaty with Italy, the importation of wine was only one-third of what it was in 1903, the decreased value amounting to 1,000,000*l.* (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,399.)

BULGARIA.

United Kingdom's Share in Import and Export Trade.

The following table, showing the share of the United Kingdom in the total import and export trade of Bulgaria from 1900 to 1904, is based on figures contained in the recent report by the Acting British Vice-Consul at Varna (Lieut.-Colonel P. Massy):—

Year.	Imports.		Exports.	
	Total.	British Share.	Total.	British Share.
	£	£	£	£
1900	1,854,000	301,000	2,159,000	240,000
1901	2,802,000	557,000	3,311,000	635,000
1902	2,850,600	609,000	4,147,000	980,000
1903	3,272,000	594,000	4,323,000	807,000
1904	5,188,000	794,000	6,305,000	989,000

(*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,395.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Shoe and Leather Industries.

H.M. Consul at Philadelphia (Mr. W. Powell), in his report to the Foreign Office for 1904 (*Annual Series*, 3398*), gives some interesting information respecting the shoe and leather industries in the United

* To be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C.

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Miscellaneous.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

States, including statistics of the imports of hides and skins, production of boots and shoes and particulars of methods of production.

Improved Railway Car Axles.

The same report describes an important improvement in the manufacture of railway car axles, which has been patented in the United States as well as in Europe and Canada.

MEXICO.

Equivalents of Gold Peso.

The Mexican "Diario Oficial" of 24th May contains a table showing the equivalent of the Mexican gold peso in the coinage of all other countries having a gold standard. This table is published with a view to determine the fees payable to the diplomatic and consular representatives of Mexico.

The "Diario" may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C. any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

JAPAN.

Cold Storage at Kobe.

According to the "Japan Herald," cold storage is to be established at Kobe, building operations having already begun. The new venture will include the manufacture of isinglass and the importation of Australian meat, fruit and vegetables, which will be stored.

It is expected that business will commence in July.

Commercial Mission to China, Korea and Manchuria.

According to the "Canton Times" the Japanese Government have recently appointed a delegate to travel through China, Korea and Manchuria, in order to study the agricultural and commercial conditions of those countries, with a view to the extension and consolidation of Japanese trade and commerce with them. He will apparently call first at Shanghai on his way down, and thence proceed direct to Canton, Swatow, Amoy, Fuchow, Shanghai, Soochow, and thence to Kongking and Hankow. When he has finished his work in China he will visit Manchuria, and return to his native country, *viâ* Korea.

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the **Number** of **Bales** of **Cotton Imported** and **Exported** at the **Various Ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the Week and 24 Weeks ended 15th June, 1905 :—

	Week ended 15th June, 1905.	24 Weeks ended 15th June, 1905.	Week ended 15th June, 1905.	24 Weeks ended 15th June, 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	62,098	1,756,175	1,862	151,906
Brazilian	100	28,800	17	524
East Indian	388	24,724	872	7,064
Egyptian	3,301	248,277	477	53,794
Miscellaneous	370*	32,221†	41	1,730‡
Total	66,257	2,090,197	3,269	215,018

* Including 3 bales British West African.
† „ 2,868 bales British West Indian and 1,352 bales British West African.
‡ „ 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the **Average Price** of **British Corn,** per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 17th June, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 17th June, 1905	31	7	26	0	19	1
Corresponding week in—						
1898	40	8	24	3	20	7
1899	25	7	26	2	17	11
1900	25	9	23	5	18	11
1901	27	6	23	2	20	3
1902	30	6	23	5	23	0
1903	27	6	20	7	18	3
1904	26	5	18	2	16	8

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 10th June, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 10th June, 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	8,815	*11,444*
Sheep and lambs	"	8,480	*6,144*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	349	*298*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	148,920	*93,775*
Mutton	"	108,612	*44,837*
Pork	"	4,027	*6,078*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	116,322	*85,092*
Beef	"	6,835	*2,096*
Hams	"	35,208	*24,014*
Pork	"	4,674	*3,959*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	15,679	*12,518*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	16,712	*15,539*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	88,552	*90,783*
Margarine	"	20,220	*16,699*
Cheese	"	40,985	*37,281*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	125	*208*
" condensed	"	17,893	*14,099*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	51	*80*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	575,164	*411,460*
Poultry	Value £	2,518	*11,210*
Game	"	2,177	*2,006*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	1,858	*2,137*
Lard	"	39,442	*35,550*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,940,100	*1,743,800*
Wheat meal and flour	"	182,300	*223,400*
Barley	"	242,800	*382,100*
Oats	"	622,500	*288,100*
Peas	"	40,789	*64,330*
Beans	"	29,040	*9,470*
Maize or Indian corn	"	728,500	*593,800*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	19,121	*31,476*
Apricots and peaches	"	527	*51*
Bananas	Bunches.	158,136	*122,910*
Cherries	Cwts.	21,759	*25,898*
Currants...	"	—	—
Gooseberries	"	197	*2,969*
Grapes	"	178	*268*
Lemons	"	26,470	*18,441*
Oranges	"	86,828	*62,955*
Pears	"	88	*178*
Plums	"	—	—
Strawberries	"	5,900	*5,236*
Unenumerated	"	692	*628*
Hay...	Tons.	3,494	*2,791*
Straw	"	2,386	*2,560*
Moss Litter. (Not shown prior to 1905) ...	"	2,232	—
Hops	Cwts.	460	*138*
Locust Beans	"	24,510	*7,932*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	116,899	*37,073*
Potatoes	Cwts.	818,850	*467,467*
Tomatoes	"	31,802	*37,120*
Unenumerated	Value £	18,187	*12,781*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	7,607	*4,357*
Preserved by canning...	"	5,146	*4,086*

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom—(*cont.*).

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 17th June, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 17th June, 1905.	*Corresponding week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number	11 884	*13,098*
Sheep and lambs	"	2,896	*4 411*
Swine	"	150	—
Horses	"	188	*285*
Fresh meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	84,882	*74,039*
Mutton	"	49.991	*75,245*
Pork	"	3,018	*6,732*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	104,108	*108 952*
Beef	"	982	*3,588*
Hams	"	25,854	*31.238*
Pork	"	3,918	*5 606*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	9,729	*11,965*
Meat, preserved, otherwise than by salting...	"	8,325	*9,970*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	71,515	*84,714*
Margarine	"	17,022	*17,578*
Cheese	"	38,341	*51,593*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	67	*145*
" condensed	"	12,611	*16,050*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	26	*85*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	314,474	*461,701*
Poultry	Value £	2,533	*4,883*
Game	"	18	*2,865*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	3,518	*1,164*
Lard	"	25,897	*46,331*
Corn, grain, meal and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,750,900	*2,943,900*
Wheat-meal and flour...	"	142,200	*247,500*
Barley	"	280,100	*395,100*
Oats...	"	432,600	*178,900*
Peas	"	80,325	*31.250*
Beans	"	20,910	*7,920*
Maize or Indian corn	"	637,500	*554,200*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	10,794	*21,253*
Apricots and peaches	"	336	*475*
Bananas	Bunches	147,315	*86,799*
Cherries	Cwts.	22,559	*35,424*
Currants...	"	316	*1,423*
Gooseberries	"	709	*4,165*
Grapes	"	294	*232*
Lemons	"	10,796	*8,857*
Oranges	"	30,458	*57,926*
Pears	"	23	*115*
Plums	"	—	*25*
Strawberries	"	5,689	*9,774*
Unenumerated	"	1,281	*3,765*
Hay...	Tons	3,281	*2,808*
Straw	"	1,648	*2,417*
Moss Litter. (Not shown prior to 1905) ...	"	1,243	—
Hops	Cwts.	115	*651*
Locust beans	"	100	—
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels	64,601	*31,305*
Potatoes...	Cwts.	353,898	*620,280*
Tomatoes	"	36,118	*27 276*
Unenumerated	Value £	13,061	*11,035*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	476	*931*
Preserved by canning...	"	2,581	*5,947*

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of May, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s.* per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that Volume I. of the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s.* 7*d.* at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900–1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country). The second volume will contain details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the June issue:—State of the Labour Market in May; Relief of the Unemployed; Changes in Agricultural Rates of Wages in 1904; Accident and Sickness Insurance in Austria; and Recent Conciliation Cases.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the **Annual Series** issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,401. Trade of New Orleans, 1904.

Value of imports largest yet recorded. Notes on trade in burlaps, coffee, creosote oil, fruit, sisal hemp, and sugar.

Opening for British goods.

Returns of imports, exports, and shipping.

This publication contains also a report by the British Vice-Consul at Pensacola, with a sketch map showing the proximity of that port to the Pacific Coast and markets of the Far East through the Panama Canal, and a report by the British Vice-Consul at Jacksonville.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,402. Trade of Baden, 1904.

Prosperous year's trade. Progress of the Trust or Syndicate system.

Notes on the corn, flour, and hops trade.

Decreasing exportation of cement.

No. 3,403. Trade of Java, 1904.

Prosperous state of trade, the large increase in sugar production having more than compensated for shortages in coffee and tobacco crops.

Diminishing market for indigo.

Larger demand for artificial fertilisers.

Enhanced facilities for trade with Australia.

Statement of tenders for Billiton tin opened at Batavia during 1903-04, showing average price per ton at each sale.

Returns of imports, exports, and shipping.

This publication contains also report by the British Vice-Consul at Macassar.

No. 3,404. Fishing Industries, &c., of the Faroe Islands, 1904.

Summary of the investigations undertaken by the vessel "Thor" respecting fish life in the waters of Iceland and Faroe.

Advantages of the telegraphic cable to be laid from the Shetland Islands to Faroe and Iceland.

Procedure necessary under the salvage law.

Account of whaling industry. Draft of regulations, with comments thereon.

Opening for motor fishing smacks.

No. 3,405. Trade of North Formosa, 1904.

Large increase in trade both in North Formosa and over the whole island.

Probable increase in demand for cycles.

Export trade in tea and camphor.

Railway extensions.

Returns of principal articles of import and export at Tamsui and Kelung, with remarks as to character of trade.

No. 3,406. Trade of Friendly Islands.

Figures of imports from Sydney, New South Wales, and Auckland, New Zealand.

Rates of duty on and prices current of imported goods.

Notes on principal exports. Expansion of fruit trade with New Zealand.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,407. Trade of Corea, 1904.

Increase of 876,507*l.* in imports, and decrease of 259,710*l.* in exports, the total trade being largest on record.

Beneficial effect on commerce and industry of the war.

British imports chiefly railway materials and cotton goods, the Japanese being keen competitors in the latter.

Progress of the Seoul-Fusan and Seoul-Wiju Railway.

No. 3,408. Trade of Persian Gulf, 1904.

Decrease in imports, owing to dulness of markets in the interior, but increase in exports.

Trade stated to be retarded by the new Customs regulations.

Advice to shippers regarding invoices, and to steamship companies regarding harbour regulations.

Statistics of imports into Bushire from all countries.

Classified table of exports to all countries.

Trade returns of Bahrain and Lingah and the Arab Coast.

This publication contains also a report by H.M. Consul at Bunaer Abbas.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

Mines and Quarries: General Report and Statistics for 1904. *Part I. District Statistics.* [*Cd.* 2,540.] *Price* 6½*d.*

This return, which forms the first part of the General Report on Mines and Quarries for 1904, contains statistics of the number of persons employed, the output of minerals, and of accidents at mines and quarries in the United Kingdom arranged according to the inspection districts. The total output of the undermentioned minerals in the United Kingdom in 1904 as compared with 1903 was as follows:—

—	1903.	1904.
	Tons.	Tons.
Coal	230,334.469	232,428.272
Clays and shale	16,198,021	15.948,915
Iron ore	13.715,645	13,774.282
Limestone (other than chalk)	12,222,971	12,043.135
Igneous rocks	5,425,538	5,988.821
Sandstone	5,409,502	5,303.260
Chalk	4,469,974	4,438,728

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Government Publications.

International Sugar Conference. Spring Session, 1905. *Report of British Delegate, and Correspondence.* [*Cd.* 2,531.] *Price* 3½*d.*

This paper contains correspondence in connection with the session of the Permanent Sugar Commission held at Brussels in April last, with a report of its proceedings.

Sea Fisheries of Sutherland and Caithness. [*Cd.* 2,557.] *Price* 2*d.*

This publication contains a summary of the evidence given before the Committee appointed to enquire into the causes of the recent decrease in the prosperity of the sea fisheries in parts of the counties of Sutherland and Caithness, together with a report of the conclusions arrived at by the Committee as to the steps to be taken with a view to restoring that prosperity, or assisting the fishermen in the prosecution of their calling.

Post Office Money Orders. United Kingdom—Russia. [*Cd.* 2,459.] *Price* 2½*d.*

This publication contains the text of the agreement concluded on the 17/29 October, 1904, and to come into force as from that date, for the exchange of Post Office Money Orders between the United Kingdom and Russia, together with the detailed regulations for the execution of the agreement.

Parcel Post. United Kingdom—United States of America. [*Cd.* 2,512.] *Price* 1*d.*

This publication contains the text of the agreement, to come into operation as from the 1st April, 1905, between the Post Office of the United Kingdom and that of the United States of America for the direct exchange of parcels by Parcel Post between the two countries.

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THE COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH OF THE BOARD OF TRADE.

The Intelligence Branch of the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade (No. 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.) is intended to be a centre at which information on all subjects of commercial interest shall be collected and focussed in a form convenient for reference, and at which, so far as the interests of British trade permit, replies shall be given to enquiries by traders on commercial matters.

On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.—In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Among the branches of work now carried on by the Imperial Institute at South Kensington are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which is exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Imperial Institute Bulletin," issued quarterly, contains information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

March, 1905.

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SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

A Reading Room will also be provided in which maps, directories, statutes, Government reports, and other publications of the State can be seen.

March, 1905.

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THE BUYERS' GUIDE

) Merchants, Manufacturers, and Shippers whose Advertisements appear in the "Board of Trade Journal."

(*Where no folio is given, Advertisement does not appear in this issue.*)

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Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...

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ents (Colonial & Foreign)—
Hodgkinson, F. A., & Co., London, E.C. ... ...

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Cooper, Taber & Co., 90 & 92, Southwark Street, S.E. ...
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Ammonia (Anhydrous), Valves for—
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Ammunition Manufacturers—
King's Norton Metal Co., Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Nobel's Explosives Co., Ltd., Glasgow C

Antifouling Composition for Ships—
Peacock & Buchan, Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

Anti-friction Metal—
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The Atlas Metal & Alloys Co., Ltd., 52, Queen Victoria Street, E.C. ...

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Wilkinson, Heywood & Clark, Ltd., London, E. ... ...

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Bags and Sacks—
Paiva, J. de, & Co., 11, Drury Lane, Liverpool ... ...

Barrels, Casks, Shooks, &c.—
Rankin, G. & J., Ltd., 2/4, Houlgrove St., Liverpool...

Baths, Porcelain, Enamelled (Cast Iron)—
Clark, T. & C., & Co., Wolverhampton ... ...

Bedding—
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., South Place, Finsbury, E.C. ...

Bedsteads (Iron and Brass)—
Bott, J. T., Ltd., Glover Street, Birmingham... ...
Evered & Co., London and Birmingham ... ...
Hoskins & Sewell, Ltd., Bordesley, Birmingham, and South Place, Finsbury, E.C.
Hoyland, John, Ltd., Birmingham and London ...

Bellows—
Brison, E., & Co., Bristol ...

Bevelled and Bent Glass—
Stevens, James, & Son, Victoria Glass Works, Dartmouth Street, Birmingham

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Bird Seeds and Foods—
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Biscuit Machinery—
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Biscuit Manufacturers—
Hubbard, Walter, Partick, Glasgow. Export Agent—J. S. Morrison, Son & Jones, Peninsular Buildings, London, E.C. 8

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Boiler Makers—
Butterley Co. (The), Ld., Derby
Day, Summers & Co., Ltd., Southampton ... ...
Garrett, R., & Son, Ltd., Leiston, R.S.O. ... ...
Hartley & Sugden, Ltd., Halifax ... ...
Marriott & Graham, Govan, N.B. ... ...

Boiler Makers and Heating Engineers—
Riley, J. Ashton, Ltd., Manchester Road, Huddersfield

Boiler Tubes—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury ... ...

Bolts, Nuts and Screws—
Guest, Keen & Nettlefolds, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...
Periam, Herb. W., Birmingham (Screws, Rivets, Washers, Nails (Roofing))

Bone Mill Manufacturers—
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Boots and Shoes—
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Bottled Fruits—
Cocks, Charles, & Co., Ltd., Reading ... ...

Brass Finishers—
Russell, J., & Sons, Wednesbury

Brassfounders—
Delta Metal Co., Ltd., London, E.C. ... ...

Brass Scrap Merchants—
Adams, John, & Sons, Newcastle-on-Tyne ... ...

Bread & Biscuit Machinery—
Baker, Joseph, & Sons, London, E.C. ... ...

Brick & Tile Manufacturers—
Craig, J. & M., Ltd., Kilmarnock (Enamelled and Glazed Bricks, Glazed Wall Tiles)
Pearson, E. J. & J., Stourbridge
Towers & Williamson, Little Bytham, Grantham ... ...
Woolliscroft, G., & Son, Ltd., Hanley, Staffs ... ...

HIGHEST AWARDS:
LONDON, 1862. PARIS, 1878. SYDNEY, 1880. LONDON, 1884.
GOLD MEDAL, LIVERPOOL, 1886. ADELAIDE, 1887.
SILVER MEDAL, PARIS, 1889. SILVER MEDAL, BRUSSELS, 1897.

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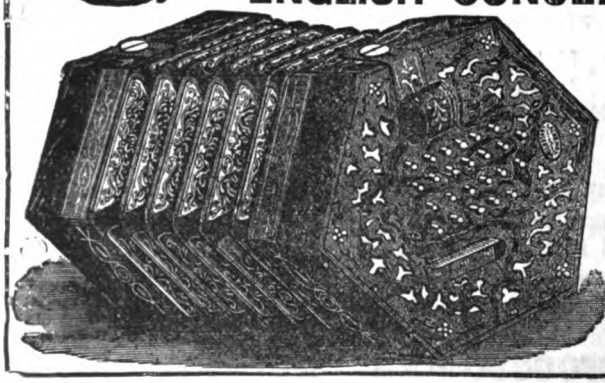

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nting Manufacturers—
Riley, E., & Co., Providence Street Mills, Leeds ... ...

tton Manufacturers—
Smith & Wright, Ltd., Birmingham ... ...

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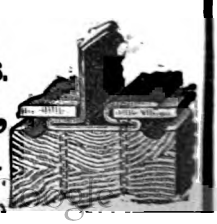

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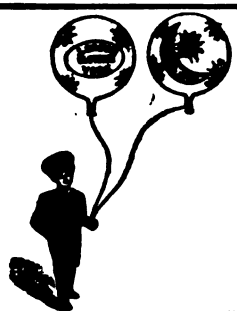

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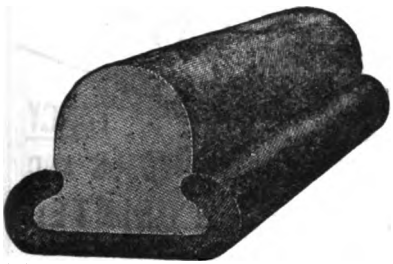

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Edited by the Commercial Department of the Board of Trade.

JUNE 29, 1905.

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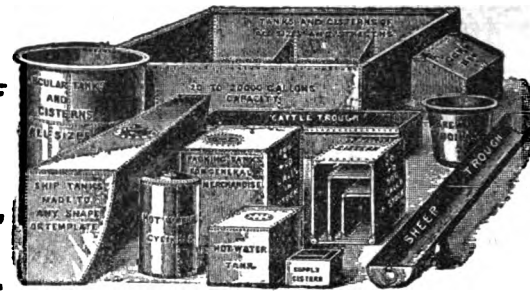

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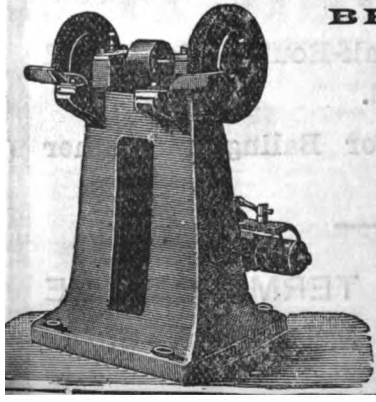

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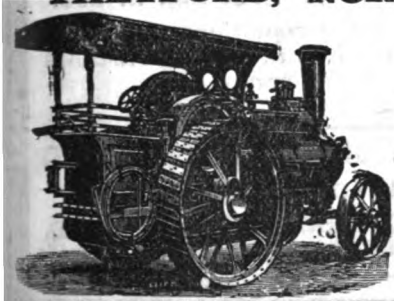

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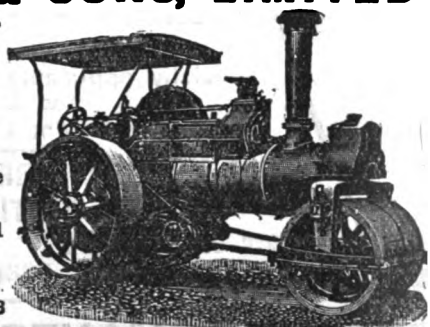

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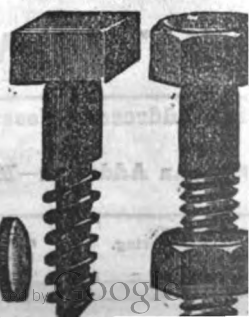

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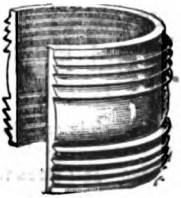
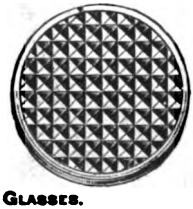
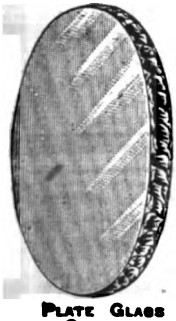




DIOPTRIC LENSES. SKYLIGHT GLASSES.



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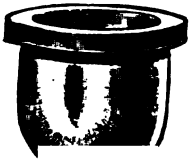
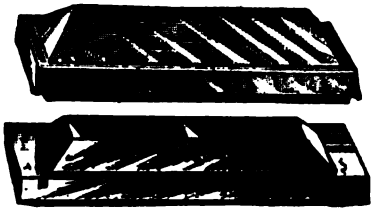


GOLD RUBY LENSES.



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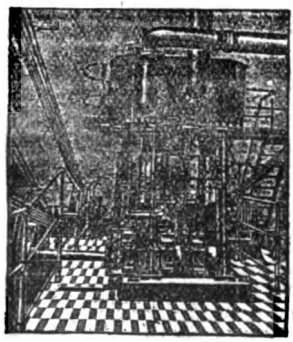

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Highly Calendered Printings, for Magazine Work
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White and Tened Printings, in fine and other qualities, rolled or glazed
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Telegraphic Address: "*CHROMO, GLOSSOP.*" *Telephone: No.* 26.

Art Papers and Boards, white, tinted and duplex
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Broughton Bridge Paper Works, Manchester (No. 177 Mill).

Telegraphic Address: "*SMALLHANDS, MANCHESTER.*" *Telephone: No.* 2670.

Extra Strong Papers of every description, glazed and unglazed, viz.: Caps, Casings, Cartridges, Envelope and Wrapping Papers; M.G. and Rolled Railway Buffs; M.G. White and Coloured Long Elephants, in reams or web; Manillas, for glass and other purposes. Cheap White Printings, glazed or unglazed. M.G. Coloured Pressings. M.G. Litho Papers, M.G. Lining and Pasting Papers.

Ramsbottom Paper Mill Co., Ltd., Ramsbottom (No. 73 Mill).

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APPOINTMENTS.

Southall-Norwood Urban District Council.

Surveyor's Assistant.

The Council invites applications for the appointment of Assistant to their Surveyor, at a salary of £75 per annum.

Candidates must have had experience in a municipal surveyor's or engineer's office, and in building construction and private street works.

The duties will be such as the Surveyor directs.

Preference will be given to candidates holding qualifications from the Institution of Civil Engineers or Association of Municipal and County Engineers.

The successful candidate will be required to devote the whole of his time to the service of the Council, and will not be permitted to undertake any private work whatever.

Applications, in own handwriting, stating age, present occupation and qualifications, accompanied by copies of two recent testimonials, and at least one original drawing, to be sent to the undersigned not later than 4 o'clock p.m., on the 5th day of July next.

Canvassing, either directly or indirectly, is prohibited and will be a disqualification.

A. LAWRENCE HOULDER,
(Solicitor), Clerk.

Public Office,
Southall, Middlesex,
June 19th, 1905.

Metropolitan Borough of Islington.

Inspectors of Sewers, Drains and Buildings.

The Works Committee of this Council are prepared to receive applications for the appointment of an Inspector of Sewers, Drains and Buildings.

Candidates must have practical experience in and a thorough knowledge of the following subjects: Construction and repair of sewers, drains and sanitary fittings; the cleansing of sewers, gullies, urinals, &c.; selection of materials; levelling; setting out and measuring up works; making estimates and sketches; squaring dimensions; and the management of men. None but those who have been engaged in a similar capacity need apply.

The person appointed will be required to devote the whole of his time to the duties of the situation, and will be required to pass a medical examination as to his constitutional fitness for the situation.

Salary to commence at 50s. per week, rising by annual increments of 5s. per week to a maximum of £3 per week.

Applications in the handwriting of the candidate, stating age, present employment, and accompanied by copies of not more than three testimonials of recent date, must be delivered to the undersigned not later than 12 noon on Saturday, the 1st July, 1905.

WM. F. DEWEY,
Town Clerk.

CONTRACTS.

Urban District Council of Teddington.

To Road Contractors and Tar Paviors.

The above-named Council are desirous of receiving tenders for the following Works in connection with the Making Up of Fairfax Road (part of), Bushey Park Road, Atbara Road and Blenheim Road, in their district, viz.:—

10,085 super. yards of Roadway, Forming and Metalling.
1,972 lineal yards of Kerbing
2,866 lineal yards of Channelling.
6,391 super. yards of Tar Paving.
867 lineal yards of taking up and relaying Kerbing.
261 lineal yards of laying Surface-Water Drain, and other works.

Plans and specifications may be seen, bills of quantities and forms of tender obtained (on payment of £2 2s., which will be returned on receipt of a bona-fide tender), on application to Mr. M. Hainsworth, Surveyor, Elmfield House, Teddington.

Tenders will not be considered unless made out on the form provided.

Sealed tenders, endorsed "Private Street Works," must reach me, the undersigned, not later than noon on Monday, the 10th day of July, 1905.

The Council do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

(By order)
G. H. SALMONS,
Clerk.

Borough of Ealing.

Private Street Improvements.

The Town Council of this Borough hereby invite tenders for the Making Up of the following Roads:—

Woodfield Crescent (first portion).
Kingsley Avenue (first portion).
Queen's Gardens.

The drawings and specifications may be seen, and form of tender, together with schedule of quantities and other particulars, obtained from Mr. Charles Jones, M.Inst.C.E., Borough Engineer, Town Hall, Ealing, W., any day during office hours, upon payment of a deposit of 10s. 6d. for each road, which will be returned upon receipt of a bona-fide tender.

Sealed tenders, in the envelopes provided, endorsed "Tenders for Making Up ——," must be delivered at my office not later than first post on Tuesday, the 4th day of July, 1905.

The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

Dated this 19th day of June, 1905.

Borough of Faversham.

To Wood Paving Contractors.

The Corporation of the Borough of Faversham invites tenders for Taking Up and Relaying 976 superficial yards (more or less) of Wood Block Paving in West Street, Faversham.

The plans and specification can be seen and a form of tender obtained at the office of the Borough Surveyor, Mr. S. Percy Andrews, 20, West Street, Faversham, any morning between the hours of 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Tenders, in sealed envelopes, endorsed "West Street Paving," to be sent to the undersigned not later than 12 o'clock noon on Saturday, the 1st day of July, 1905.

The Corporation does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

ALLAN TASSELL,
Town Clerk.

CONTRACTS.

Borough of Faversham

The Corporation of the Borough of Faversham invites tenders for the supply of 1,632 tons (more or less) of Guernsey Granite or Rhenish Basalt, broken 2-in. gauge, and of 105 tons (more or less) of clean ¾-in. Guernsey Granite or Rhenish Basalt Chippings, free from dust, and of 105 tons (more or less) of clean ¾-in. Guernsey Granite or Rhenish Basalt Chippings free from dust.

The material is to be delivered at the Town Wharf, Faversham, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the wharf, or into carts or trucks as may be directed by the borough surveyor.

The whole of the material is to be delivered in such quantities and at such times, not later than December 31, as may be ordered by the borough surveyor.

Tenders, in sealed envelopes, endorsed "Tender for Road Metal," must be sent to the undersigned not later than 12 o'clock noon on Saturday, the 1st day of July, 1905.

The Corporation does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender. If should a tender be accepted, the person tendering will be required to enter into a contract, in the form now deposited at the Town Clerk's Office, and which may be seen on application, with the condition for the due performance of the tender.

ALLAN TASSELL,
Town Clerk.

20, West-street, Faversham.
June 8, 1905.

Urban District of Cleckheaton.

Annual Contracts.

The Council for the above District invites tenders for the following for the year ending June 30, 1906:—

1. Lias Lime and Portland Cement.
2. Granite.
3. Gas Coal.
4. Carbolic Powder, Carbolic Soap, Sulphur Candles, Soap, &c.
5. Tar, Pitch and Oil.
6. Pipes, Bends, Junctions, Road Gulleys, &c.
7. Charging Shovels, Coke Fork, Rakes, Auger Heads, Files, Pig Iron, Meter Taps, Brooms, Gaskin, Cotton Waste, Sponge Cloths, Red and White Lead, Dry, Wet and Prepayment Meters, Gas and Water Mains.
8. Delphstone Kerb, and Setts, Fuel and Dross.
9. Fodder, Straw, &c.
10. Manhole and Lamphole Covers, Picks, Shovels, Rebilling Brushes, Brooms, &c.
11. Sundries for Electricity Works including Cylinder Oil, Crank Chamber Oil, Jenkin's Jointing, Engine Packing, Asbestos, Manhole Joints, Gauge Glasses, Nuts and Bolts, Sponge Cloths.
12. Cartage of Coal from Railway Station to Gasworks.

Forms of tender, conditions and full particulars may be had on application at the under-mentioned office. Sealed tenders, marked "Tender for [illegible]," to be addressed to the undersigned, must be delivered not later than 4 p.m. on Saturday, the 8th day of July. The Council does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

JOHN H. LINFIELD,
Clerk to the Council.

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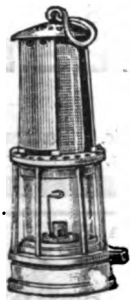
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Offers Submitted for
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BASIC SLAG MANURE.
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CHIPS AND SAWDUST FIRELIGHTERS.
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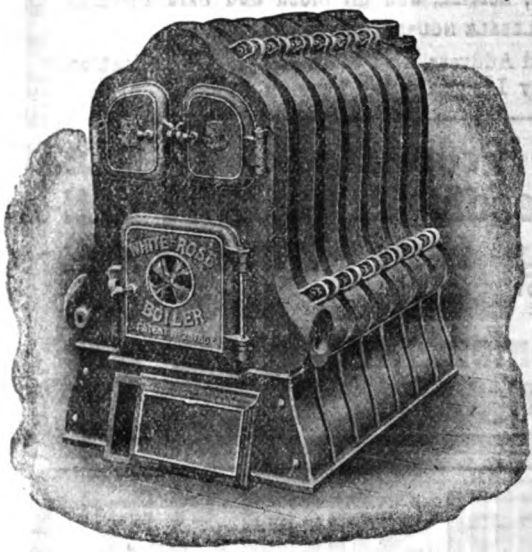

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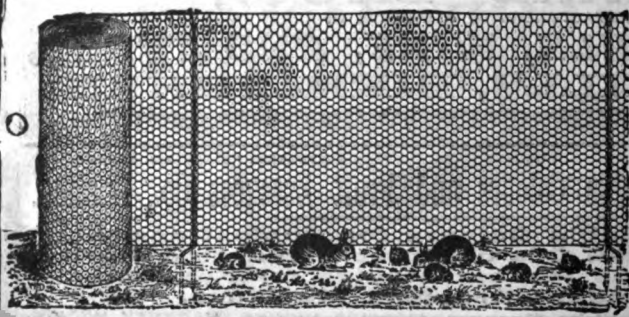

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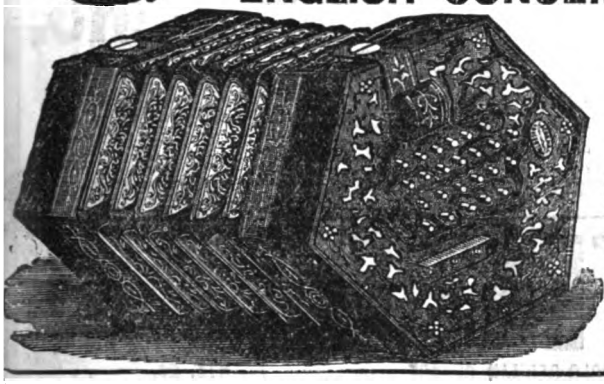

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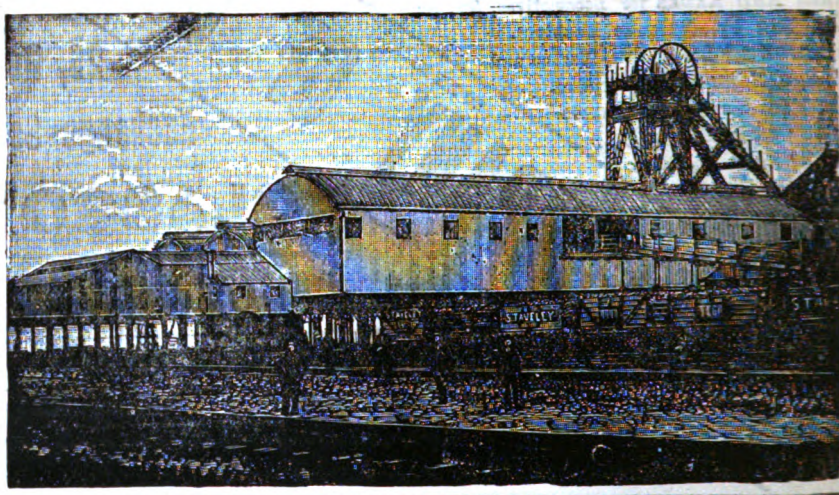

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AREA, &c.—The present BUTE DOCKS are 111 acres in extent, and vessels loading up to 12,000 tons regularly trade there. The NEW SOUTH DOCK, which is rapidly approaching completion, will have a water area of 40 acres. It is 2,500 feet in length, 80 feet in breadth, and 40 feet in depth from the coping; and will be capable of accommodating the LARGEST VESSELS AFLOAT. The Sea Lock will be 800 FEET IN LENGTH, and 80 FEET IN BREADTH, with a depth of water over the cill of 42 FEET at ordinary spring tides, and 32 FEET at ordinary neap tides. Two Large Graving Docks, up to 800 FEET IN LENGTH, and entered from THE DOCK, are about to be constructed.

MACHINERY AND APPLIANCES.—The Bute Docks are equipped with the most IMPROVED Appliances for the discharging and loading of vessels with dispatch; the greater portion being worked by HYDRAULIC PRESSURE. There is an ample equipment of Cranes of various power up to 70 TONS, as well as Grain Elevators, &c., &c.

Special attention may be drawn to the NEW 70-TON CRANE in the ROATH DOCK, thus enabling THE CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY to ship or unship THE HEAVIEST WEIGHTS.

COAL SHIPPING FACILITIES.—Coal is being shipped at these Docks by the ordinary Fixed, as well as Moveable Staiths; as also by the LEWIS-HUNTER PATENT COALING CRANES. The Cardiff Railway Company have the EXCLUSIVE use in the Bristol Channel of the LEWIS-HUNTER Coaling Cranes, which have proved by far the most satisfactory appliances for shipping Welsh Coal, with dispatch and the Least Possible Breakage. Colliery screened coal shipped by these cranes being equal to double screened coal shipped by ordinary Staiths, and thereby ensuring to the purchaser an INCREASED VALUE OF AT LEAST ONE SHILLING per ton over that of coal put on board by shipping appliances at other Docks, besides ensuring great SAVING IN BREAKAGE and uniformity of distribution throughout the cargo of any small coal that might exist; thus minimising any risk of spontaneous ignition from small coal in cargoes bound for distant ports. THREE OR MORE CRANES can be worked simultaneously into one vessel, and as much as 330 TONS have been shipped by one crane in an hour, and 4,773 TONS have been shipped into a vessel in 10 HOURS. Shippers attach so much importance to the advantages of these Cranes that they frequently elect to wait some time for a CRANE BERTH rather than have their coal shipped by the usual staiths.

The NEW SOUTH DOCK will be entirely equipped with these COALING CRANES, in deference to the wishes of so many shippers and buyers of CARDIFF COAL.

WAREHOUSES AND TRANSIT SHEDS.—Good accommodation for the storage of GRAIN, PROVISIONS, &c., &c., BONDED AND FREE.

WHARF SPACE AND YARDS.—Large provision is made for stacking Timber, Deals, Iron Ore, &c. Timber Ponds, 28 ACRES in extent, with COMPETITIVE RAILWAY COMMUNICATION TO ALL PARTS.

FACILITIES FOR SHIP REPAIRS.—There are 10 PRIVATE GRAVING AND FLOATING DOCKS, ranging up to 600 feet in length, with SEPARATE PROPERTIES, and one PUBLIC GRAVING DOCK 600 FEET in length. There are also several MARINE ENGINEERING FIRMS, thus giving Shipowners an opportunity of obtaining tenders for repairs of every description.

RAILWAY ACCOMMODATION.—CARDIFF is the NATURAL PORT for BIRMINGHAM and the MIDLAND DISTRICT, as the London & North Western, Midland, and Great Western Railway Companies have direct communication from the Ship's Side.

DOCK CHARGES.—These are much below the average of our Great Ports. Vessels can generally procure an outward cargo to any PORT in the WORLD, thus giving the Bute Docks an advantage for Imports, as vessels do not require to change Ports.

TRADE.—The BUTE DOCKS were opened in the year 1839, and the IMPORTS and EXPORTS in 1902 were as follows:—Imports, 2,117,310 TONS; Exports, 7,684,587 TONS; Total, 9,801,897 TONS.

CATTLE IMPORTATION.—The BUTE DOCKS are the ONLY DOCKS in South Wales which have permission from the BOARD OF TRADE to land FOREIGN CATTLE. Excellent CATTLE LAIRS, SLAUGHTER HOUSES, and CHILL ROOMS are erected adjacent to the Wharf in the deepest-water dock, with Railways leading into them, having communication with all PARTS.

COLD STORAGE.—Ample Accommodation of the most modern description is provided for the storage of dead meat, poultry, provisions, vegetables, &c.

STATUS OF CARDIFF.—CARDIFF now occupies the position of being the FIRST PORT in the UNITED KINGDOM for shipping cleared to FOREIGN COUNTRIES and BRITISH POSSESSIONS and the PREMIER PORT in the WORLD for the SHIPMENT OF COAL.

NOTE.—The Bute Docks are the only Docks situated in the Town of Cardiff. Vessels using the Bute Docks thereby save their owners and Captains from loss of time in making journeys between the Vessels and the Merchants' and Brokers' Offices, Banks, Custom House, Post Office, &c., all of which Offices are adjacent to the Bute Docks.

The fullest information on all matters will be readily granted on application to the

CARDIFF RAILWAY COMPANY, BUTE DOCKS, CARDIFF.

KENT'S THICK COAL

RAISED AT

THE WHARNCLIFFE WOODMOOR COLLIERY, BARNSLEY.

GAS COAL.

The following extracts are from an ANALYSIS made by Mr. R. O. PATERSON, C.E., Gasworks, Cheltenham (8th August, 1894):—

Gas per Ton of Coal	11,760 cubic feet.
Illuminating Power	17·44 candles.
Coke per Ton of Coal	1,867 lbs.
Sulphur	0·96 per cent.
Ash	1.96 „
Ammoniacal Liquor per Ton of Coal ...	19·7 gallons.
Tar per Ton of Coal	12·2 „

STEAM COAL.

ANALYSIS OF KENT'S THICK STEAM COAL.

Specific Gravity (Water at 1000)	1·271
Weight of one cubic foot	79·4 lbs.
Absolute calorific value and evaporating power represented in pounds of water at 212 degrees Fahrenheit, capable of being turned into steam by the thorough combustion of one pound of Coal	15·45 „
Carbon in Coal	81·4 per cent.
Sulphur	·7 „
Ash	2·9 „
Hydrogen	4·1 „
Oxygen	8·2 „
Nitrogen	2·7 „
	100·0

For Price, &c., apply to the

WHARNCLIFFE WOODMOOR COLLIERY CO., LTD., BARNSLEY.

Mr. GEORGE D. WARD, Coal Exchange, London, or to Mr. W. H. HARVEY, 17, Old Queen St., Westminster, S.W.

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Board of Trade Journal.

JUNE 29TH, 1905.

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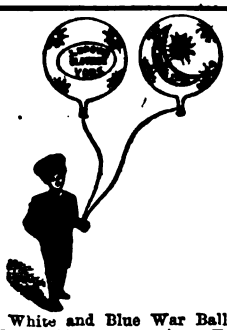

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THE

Board of Trade Journal.

Vol. XLIX.] June 29, 1905. [No. 448

The Offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade are at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C.

The registered telegraphic address of the Branch is "Advantage, London."

A statement of the objects and work of the Commercial Intelligence Branch will be found on p. 621.

Attention is directed to the Sample Room, where there are at present on view, among other exhibits, samples of iron ore received from H.M. Consuls at various places, to illustrate their reports, which are among those embodied in the publication recently issued by the Board of Trade on "Iron Ore Deposits in Foreign Countries" (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 15th June, p. 521); samples of Chinese-made footwear (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 6th April, pp. 10-11); samples of copper from the Besshi copper mine in Japan (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 23rd March last, p. 560); and also samples of cotton grown in Colombia (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 22nd June, p. 544).

The following Special Trade Enquiry Offices are also at 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.:—

India.	Queensland.
Dominion of Canada.	Cape of Good Hope.

Statements of the objects and work of the Special Trade Enquiry Offices will be found on p. 622.

OPENINGS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

BRITISH INDIA.

GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS: INDIA OFFICE.

The Secretary of State for India in Council is prepared to receive tenders from such persons as may be willing to supply—

Bridgework.

Bridgework, 6 feet spans.

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Openings for British Trade.

BRITISH INDIA—*continued.*

The conditions of contract may be seen on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.), or may be obtained on application to the Director-General of Stores, India Office, Whitehall, S.W. Tenders are to be delivered at the latter office by 2 p.m. on Thursday, the 6th July, 1905, after which time no tender will be received.

Pig Iron.

The East Indian Railway Company are prepared to receive tenders for the supply and delivery of:—

Pig iron,

as per specification to be seen at the Company's offices, Nicholas Lane, London, E.C.

Tenders are to be sent to the Secretary, marked "Tender for Pig Iron," not later than noon, on Wednesday, the 5th July.

The Company reserve the right to divide the order, also to decline any tender without assigning a reason, and do not bind themselves to accept the lowest or any tender.

For each specification a fee of 1*l.* 1*s.* is charged, which cannot under any circumstances be returned.

CANADA.

Enquiries relating to Canadian Trade.

The following trade enquiries have been received at the **Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.,** whence further information regarding them may be obtained:—

Home Enquiry.—A firm of timber importers desire addresses of Canadian shippers of ash veneers.

Canadian Enquiry.—A Montreal manufacturers' agent is prepared to represent United Kingdom manufacturers of crockery, china and glassware, lamps, cutlery, and plated and agate ware.

Note.—For further information regarding any of the above, application should be made to the Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH—QUEENSLAND.

Enquiries relating to Queensland Trade.

The following enquiries have been received at the **Queensland Government Commercial Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.,** whence further information regarding them may be obtained.

Home Enquiries.—A London firm are desirous of being represented in Queensland by a firm of electrical engineers well

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acquainted with the trade and having good connection in the surrounding districts, for the introduction of storage batteries.

A London firm desire appointment as buying agents for Queensland merchants in the soft goods, general drapery, and furnishing trades.

Note.—For further information regarding the above, application should be made to the Queensland Government Commercial Enquiry Office, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

EGYPT.

Purchase of Old Tramway Material.

A communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from the Administration of the Egyptian State Railways notifying that tenders for the purchase of the permanent way and rolling stock of the Port Said—Ismailia steam tramway, now lying for sale at Port Said, will be received by the Administration until the 1st October next. Tenders, made out on stamped paper of 30 millièmes (obtainable from Lt.-Col. Western at the address given below), should be placed in registered envelopes bearing the inscription "Offre pour l'achat du matériel fixe et roulant de la ligne de Port Said," and addressed to "M. le President, Chemins de Fer de l'Etat, Cairo."

Conditions of tender, with list of the materials to be sold, can be obtained of Lieut.-Col. Western, R.E., C.M.G., Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, S.W., upon payment of 4*s.* per copy. A copy may also be inspected at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Hides, &c.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have also been notified that tenders will be received by Lt.-Col. J. H. Western, London Agent of the Egyptian War Office, for the supply of—

2,125 hides—collar, bridle, bag and sole;
2,000 hide cuttings;
800 basils.

Samples may be seen at Lt.-Col. Western's Office, Queen Anne's Chambers, Westminster, S.W.

Delivery is required by 31st December next, but no payment will be made before 1st January, 1906.

Tenders should be delivered by noon on Monday, 10th July, and must remain open for acceptance for 45 days.

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Openings for British Trade.

SWEDEN.

Motors, Gas, Gasoline and Oil Engines.

According to the report of H.M. Consul at Stockholm (Mr. A. S. MacGregor), during last year the use of motors, gas, gasoline and oil engines has increased considerably in Sweden, and interest and confidence in them are growing steadily. It is evident that there is a wide field for these motors, especially where small power is needed.

The supply is both foreign and native. Thus engines from the United Kingdom, United States, Germany and France are to be found together with those of Sweden.

Of gas engines, the suction gas variety seems to take the first place, and is generally used in sizes of up to about 100 horse-power. They are mostly used in factories, and for electric power stations, but are also used for boats. The majority have till now been imported from the United Kingdom and Germany, but the home manufacture is increasing. They are, without exception, of the four-cycle type.

Gasoline or benzine motors ars mostly of small sizes, such as 3, 5 or 7 horse-power. They rarely exceed 40 horse-power. The United States has so far supplied the majority of them, but several Swedish firms have begun building this class of motors. They are principally used in motor-cars and pleasure boats. These motors are likewise of the four-cycle type.

Oil engines are to be found of all sizes from 1 up to 200 horse-power. These engines are by far the most important, and there are indications that their use will be very extensive. This is the case especially as regards fishing boats, smaller freight craft and the like. They are exclusively of Swedish make, and several of the most important works have taken up the manufacture on a large scale, not only for the home market but also for export. On account of its simple construction, as well as the ease with which ordinary people learn to handle it, the two-cycle type has been favourably received in both agricultural and small industrial circles.

Artificial Fertilisers.

Mr. MacGregor also reports that the import of fertilisers has much increased during the last ten years, and as far as can be calculated, ought to continue, for farmers are only now beginning to realise the benefits derivable from such aids to agriculture. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,412.)

DENMARK—FAROE ISLANDS.

Insurance.

According to the report for 1904 of H.M. Consul at Thorshavn (Mr. H. M. Villiers), the question of insurance in the Faroe Islands may possibly be worth the attention of British companies as regards

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Openings for British Trade.

DENMARK—FAROE ISLANDS—*continued.*

buildings, life and vessels. On 1st June, 1904, the premium on insurance of buildings was doubled; the rate was formerly 5*l.* per 1,000*l.*, and thus becomes 10*l.*

The present companies give their agents no discriminating powers or differentiating rates, and yet there must be an enormous difference in the risk of a house situated in contact with many others, connected with petroleum storing warehouses, bakeries, &c., and the risk of houses standing several hundred yards away from any other. An agent with discriminating powers might find a fair amount of business if he could offer better conditions than those of which complaint is now being publicly made.

Petroleum Motors.

Mr. Villiers reports also that petroleum motors are now attracting public attention. More than one fishing smack has already been satisfactorily supplied with a petroleum motor, giving a speed of 6 or 7 knots. The first was a vessel of about 50 tons. Smacks are thus able to enter harbour promptly with their catch, and leave again at will for the fishing banks, without waiting for the chance of a favourable breeze and not too strong a current. It is hoped that something also will be found suitable for the Faroese open fishing boats, with which experiments are now being made.

Petroleum.

The introduction of motors will result in the necessity of importing a good quality of petroleum. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,404.)

GERMANY.

Pipe Tobacco.

In his report on the trade of Baden, H.M. Consul at Mannheim (Mr. P. Ladenburg) states that the export of tobacco in 1904 was practically nil, even the United Kingdom, owing to the higher duty, relinquishing its usual demand for Palatinate strips. On the other hand the consumption of British manufactured pipe tobacco in Germany appears, in virtue of its excellent quality, to have a future. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,402.)

DUTCH EAST INDIES.

Artificial Fertilizers.

In his report on the trade of Java for 1904, H.M. Consul at Batavia (Mr. D. D. Fraser) states that the demand for nitrogenous manures has shown a steady increase during recent years, due to a certain extent to their liberal use for the cane crops of the island.

Sulphate of ammonia and groundnut cake are the most important manures imported into Java; the former comes chiefly from the United Kingdom and the Netherlands, and the latter from the Coromandel Coast.

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Openings for British Trade.

DUTCH EAST INDIES—*continued.*

Axles and Springs.

Mr. Fraser reports also that axles and springs have been regularly imported from the United Kingdom and have found a good market, although they have to compete with those of an inferior and cheaper quality of German manufacture. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series,* 3,403.)

BELGIUM.

Heating Apparatus: Building Construction and Material.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have been notified by H.M. Consul-General at Antwerp (Mr. E. C. Hertslet) that the municipal authorities of that city are calling for tenders for (1) the supply and installation of a heating apparatus in a school in the Rue du Prince, Antwerp; and (2) the supply of material for, and the reconstruction of, the buildings in the Government bonded warehouse known as the "Nord Ancien" and "Nord Nouveau." The adjudication of (1) will take place on the 7th July, and of (2) on the 25th July, deposits of 1,000 francs (40*l.*) and 20,000 francs (800*l.*), respectively, being required to qualify any tender.

The conditions of the contracts may be obtained from the Hôtel de Ville, Antwerp.

All tenders should be sent in sealed registered envelopes, addressed to the Burgomaster, and should reach the Hôtel de Ville not later than the 6th July and the 24th July respectively.

Copies of the conditions of contract may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

Viaduct Construction.

The "Bulletin Commercial" of 17th June contains a notice inviting tenders, which will be opened on 14th July, at Gand-Sud railway station, for the construction of a viaduct, with metallic superstructure and approaches, and other improvement works near Meirelbeke station, at the estimated cost of 292,921 frs. (about 11,716*l.*). A deposit of 18,000 frs. (about 720*l.*) is required to qualify any tender. Specifications (No. 106 of 1905, price 1 fr. 30 c.) may be obtained from M. Sarton, Ingénieur en chef, Chemins de Fer de l'Etat, Ghent.

SWITZERLAND.

Electric Railway Plant.

The "Feuille Fédérale Suisse" of 14th June publishes the text of a concession granted to M. M. J. and E. Schmidheing, of Heerbrugg, and M. H. Leumann, of Kronbühl, for the construction of

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a narrow-gauge electric railway between Heiligkreuz and Wittenbach. The cost of the work, including the laying down of the line, installation of electricity, purchase of rolling stock, &c., is estimated at 330,000 fr. (about 13,200*l.*).

The "Feuille" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

PORTUGAL.

Conditions of Tendering for Railway Materials.

The following particulars of the conditions of tendering for railway materials in Portugal are taken from "La Revue Minéralurgique" (Paris):—

The length of Portuguese railways open to traffic amounts to 2,499 kiloms., worked by four companies. The mode of addressing these is as follows:—

1° Presidente do Concelho d'Administraçâo da Companhia Real dos Caminhos de Ferro, Lisbon; 2° Marquez de Gouveia, Director da Companhia dos Caminhos de Ferro da Beïra Alta, 1, Rua Victor Cordon, Lisbon; 3° Presidente do Concelho d'Administraçâo dos Caminhos de Ferro do Estado, Ministerio das Obras Publicas, Lisbon; 4° Presidente do Concelho d'Administraçâo da Companhia Nacional dos Caminhos de Ferro, 88, Rua S. Nicolau, Lisbon. There is also a company working a narrow-gauge railway, 65 kiloms. in length, between Oporto and Povoa de Varsim, of which the address is:—Presidente do Concelho da Companhia do Porto à Povoa Famaliçâo, Boa Vista, Oporto.

As a rule, tenders are not publicly invited for railway materials; when necessary, firms on lists kept by the companies are invited to quote prices for the materials required. The first step for would-be tenderers, therefore, is to obtain a place on these lists. This is done by means of a formal demand, setting forth the qualifications of the firm, nature of materials manufactured, and any other information likely to prove the firm a desirable addition to the list of tenderers.

The "Revue" adds—"French is well understood in the principal offices, but we must admit that English would probably serve equally well." In furnishing estimates of length and weight, the metric system should always be employed.

SPAIN.

Steel Works.

H.M. Consul at Cadiz (Mr. A. L. Keyser), in his report for 1904 (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,414), repeats his statement that there is an opening for the establishment of steel works at that port.

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Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

Light Railways and Motor Car Services.

In the same report, Mr. Keyser states that the proposed coast railway, starting from San Fernando and passing through Chiclana, Medina, Conil, Vejer and Tarifa, has not yet progressed beyond the preliminary stage of talk. This is perhaps partly due to the fact that the scheme is too ambitious. A light railway constructed at far less cost would equally open up the country and be a remunerative enterprise. At present coast towns are away from direct communication with the populous centres where lies a market for all which they produce. A good motor car running between Algeciras and Cadiz for passengers and light merchandise would be an enterprise likely to result in profit to the promoter.

If motor cars were also introduced to open up the country and to some extent take the place of a railway, the advantages to be reaped are, in Mr. Keyser's opinion, very apparent. Any amelioration of local communication or transport would be sure of the approval and support of many influential residents in the district.

Agricultural Machinery, Mining Development, Forage, &c.

See p. 589 for further extracts from Mr. Keyser's report in which reference is made to openings for agricultural machinery, mining development, forage, &c.

Railway Material.

The British Vice-Consul at Huelva (Mr. W. A. Bice) says that it is understood the long projected railway from Huelva to Ayamonte, on the Portuguese frontier, is being taken in hand by the Madrid-Zaragoza-Alicante Railway Company, and there is, therefore, every prospect of its becoming, at a not far distant date, an accomplished fact. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,414.)

Indiarubber Shoes.

The British Vice-Consul at Gijon (Mr. A. Lovelace), in his report for 1904 (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,411), remarks as follows regarding openings for trade in his district:—

"A considerable trade is done in indiarubber over-shoes, the market being held by American and German manufacturers, due, I am informed, to the fact that British manufacturers, whose goods would be preferred for their quality, do not offer the shapes that meet the public taste. Samples of those in demand could be supplied to any firm requesting same.

Sharp-edged Tools.

"Formerly tools of British make were greatly in favour in this district, but at the present time the sale is very limited. German tools of the cheaper and American and French of the better class have

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Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

taken their place, the latter being sold with a finer finish than those of British make, thus greatly increasing their selling value. It is not sufficient that goods should be of superior quality if their finish is neglected.

"The above remark applies to many branches of trade, and in this connection I may mention that British firms often appear indifferent to the fact that a quotation including cost of freight, packing, insurance and delivery is often an inducement for placing an order, and failure to do so, where competition is very keen, causes orders to be placed elsewhere.

Locks.

"A good trade ought to be done in locks in this district (Gijon), although I am aware that the competition of cheap French and German locks makes it somewhat difficult for the British article to be introduced, unless a cheap lock is made, which I understand our manufacturers will not undertake to make; but I am convinced that if the requirements of this market were studied, a medium class lock, and even the best quality, would find a market. British-made padlocks are sold in this district, and there is no reason why other kinds should not also compete."

Agricultural Implements.

Mr. Lovelace also reports that there are signs of awakening among the peasants to the benefits derived from the adoption of modern agricultural implements.

Machinery and Hardware; Farming Tools.

The British Vice-Consul for Villagarcia and Carril (Mr. R. Cameron-Walker) reports that, notwithstanding competition, machinery and hardware hold the first place among the imports into those ports from the United Kingdom. A dealer in these articles estimates the value in round numbers of machinery of British manufacture put upon the market during the past year at 5,000*l.*; of agricultural implements, 600*l.*; pumps, 300*l.*; barbed wire and nails, 400*l.*; and tin and tinplates, 1,800*l.*; but by properly directed efforts he believes the trade in all these articles might be largely increased.

He is convinced, moreover, that were the improved farming tools and other labour saving devices of British manufacture once fairly introduced they would find a profitable market. To this end, however, one thing is indispensable, viz., manufacturers and dealers must not begin by making consignments largely on their own account, but they must be content to wait a long time for returns. Long credits are the rule in Spain. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,411.)

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Openings for British Trade.

SPAIN—*continued.*

Hempen Fishing Nets.

In connection with the fishing industry, the British Vice-Consul at Vivero (Mr. B. Lopez), remarks in his recent report that it may interest British manufacturers of fishing nets to know that the preference is now given to hempen nets over those of cotton which were formerly used. Mr. Lopez considers there would be an opportunity for British manufacturers to monopolise the sale of these articles in his district if they had a direct understanding with the purchasers, in view of which the Vice-Consulate at Vivero would give all necessary information. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,411.)

ITALY.

Sheet and Bar Iron.

The British Vice-Consul at Spezia (Mr. E. M. de Garston) forwards translation of a notice calling for tenders for the supply to the Italian Navy of sheet and bar iron to the estimated total value of 17,976 lire (about 719*l.*), to be delivered at the Royal Arsenal at Spezia.

Sealed tenders will be opened on 11th July next, a deposit of 1,800 lire (about 72*l.*) being required to qualify any tender. Only a single auction is to be held in the case of this contract (see "Board of Trade Journal" of 22nd December, 1904, pp. 536-7). Local representation is necessary.

The special conditions of the contract may be seen at the Ministry of Marine, Rome; at the Directorates General of the Royal Arsenals; at the technical offices of the Navy, Genoa; and at the principal Chambers of Commerce in Italy.

English Stallions.

The "Bollettino Ufficiale" of the Italian Ministry of Agriculture, Industry and Commerce announces that tenders are invited for the supply to the Italian Government of thoroughbred English stallions. Offers of sale, made out on stamped paper of 1 lira 20 cents. (obtainable from the Italian Consulate-General in London, 44, Finsbury Square, E.C.) should reach the "Ministero di Agricoltura, Industria e Commercio (Direzione Generale dell'Agricoltura—Ispettorato zootecnico), Rome," by 10th October. Stallions may be presented for inspection at Milan on 1st November; at Pisa on 4th November; or at Santa Maria Capua Vetere on 6th November.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" of 24th June contains a Decree authorising the Roman Tramways and Electric Railways Company to construct and work electric tramways (1·445 m. gauge) between Rome and Grotta-ferrata, and Frascati and Genzano.

The "Gazzetta" may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

BULGARIA.

Rock Salt.

The "Moniteur des Intérêts Matériels" (Brussels) states that tenders, which will be opened on 22nd July at the offices of the Minister of Finance, Sofia, are invited for the supply of 110,000,000 kilogs. of rock salt.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Miscellaneous Supplies; Engineers' Appliances.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the British Commercial Agent at New York (Mr. E. Seymour Bell) copies of notices issued from the office of the Purchasing Agent at Washington for the Isthmian Canal Commission, calling for tenders for the supply of (1) miscellaneous supplies (sanitary fixtures, pipes, wire rope, hydraulic jacks, &c., &c.); and (2) miscellaneous engineers' appliances and tools. Sealed tenders in triplicate, addressed to the Purchasing Agent, Isthmian Canal Commission, Washington, D.C., will be received up to 10.30 a.m. on the 10th July for (1), and the 17th July for (2).

Specifications and full information may be obtained from the Purchasing Agent at Washington. A copy of the specifications may be examined at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

British Articles in Demand at New Orleans.

According to the report of H.M. Consul at New Orleans (Mr. H. T. C. Hunt) the imports at that port during the year 1904 were the largest yet known. All the important articles show an increase, due to the demands on the part of the consuming public, whose spending power increases every year. Articles of British manufacture of first rate quality and finish find a ready sale at New Orleans on account of their marked superiority; the high import duties do not keep out the goods of firms whose names are household words wherever the English language is understood. There is no market for inferior makes. Salesmen in New Orleans, if they wish specially to recommend any article, always lay great stress on its having been imported as a sign of its good quality.

Public Works.

Mr. Hunt further states that the construction of the large terminal railway station at Chalmette, on the left bank of the River Mississippi, just below the town of New Orleans, will call for an expenditure of 500,000*l.* for the building of a shipping slip, 1,700 feet long and 250 feet wide, having concrete walls 20 feet thick. A further sum of

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Openings for British Trade.

500,000*l.* is to be expended in providing grain elevators, freight sheds and other necessary buildings. It is calculated that it will take two years to complete this undertaking, which will be one of the finest of its kind in existence. It will greatly reduce the charges on freight shipped from or landed at New Orleans. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,401.)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—PHILIPPINES.

Railway Construction.

Adverting to the notice in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd March, pp. 400-01, the "Railway Age" (Chicago) announces that the United States War Department have invited proposals for concessionary contracts or grants with, and by, the Philippine government in aid of the construction, equipment, maintenance and working of railways in the Philippine Islands. Envelopes containing tenders must be marked: "Proposals for Concessions, Philippine Railways, and addressed to the Bureau of Insular Affairs, War Department, Washington, D.C., or to the Philippine Commission, Manila, Philippine Islands. Tenders will be received at one of the above-named offices up to 1st November, 1905.

Particulars of the lines constituting the proposed railway system, which represent an aggregate of about 1,133 miles, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

CHILE.

Electric Tramway Plant.

The "Diario Oficial" of Chile of 14th April contains a Decree authorising Messrs. Manuel and Horacio Valdes Ortúzar to construct and work an electric tramway (1·440m. gauge) for the conveyance of passengers and goods between Santiago and San Bernardo.

The "Diario" may be seen at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

BRAZIL.

Ticket Stamping Machines.

The "Diario Official" of Brazil of 31st May contains a notice inviting tenders for the supply to the Central Railway of Brazil of 25 ticket stamping machines, in accordance with conditions set forth in the "Diario." Tenders have to be presented at the offices of the Company in Rio de Janeiro at noon on 25th July. A deposit of 300 milreis (about 33*l.* 15*s.*) is required to qualify any tender. Local representation is necessary.

The "Diario" may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Openings for British Trade.

ARGENTINA.

Electric Vehicles in Buenos Ayres.

The United States Minister at Buenos Ayres reports that the German Transatlantic Electric Company of that city intend ordering 100 electric cabs by way of experiment, and they consider that the demand will be such as to warrant a considerable increase at an early date.

The vehicles will be mainly of light landaulette pattern, and generally light construction, with hood or top long enough to afford protection from the sun and rain.

Stress is laid upon the fact that there is an opening in Buenos Ayres for electric vehicles. The city, like the country, is absolutely flat; the streets, though narrow, are well paved with wood and asphalte; and, as there are no country roads suitable for touring, the use of motor carriages is confined to the city. Consequently the electric vehicle is coming into greater favour every day.

JAPAN.

Oil-Cake (Fish Manure).

In a recent report the Canadian Commercial Agent at Yokohama (Mr. A. MacLean) states that it may interest the manufacturers of oil-cake (fish manure) to learn that the herring catch in Hokkaido, North Japan, is reported to show a decrease up to the end of April, which is expected to cause an advance in the price of that product. The scarcity is already said by the Press to be keenly felt, and the demand consequently active. The falling-off in the catch is about 20 per cent., as compared with last year, which was not an abundant one.

FORTHCOMING EXHIBITION.

NEW ZEALAND.

International Exhibition at Christchurch, 1906-7.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received from the Government Representative in London of the New Zealand International Exhibition (Mr. T. E. Donne), an official notice, with the rules and regulations, of the Exhibition, which is to be held at Christchurch from November, 1906, to April, 1907.

Applications for space may be lodged with the High Commissioner for New Zealand, Westminster Chambers, 13, Victoria Street, S.W.

Mr. Donne is advised that the question of granting free space for *bonâ-fide* exhibitors is under the consideration of the New Zealand Government.

The rules and regulations referred to may be consulted at the offices of the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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BRITISH TRADE ABROAD.

Oruro.—The British Vice-Consul at Oruro (Mr. J. Ramsay Smith), says in his recent report:—

"I do not think there can be any reasonable doubt that this country (Bolivia) is entering on an era of great commercial prosperity. The 4,000,000*l.* received under the treaties with Chile and with Brazil are to be spent on railways, opening up a great part of the country; the people are more interested in industrial occupations; and Bolivia can no longer be neglected as a market for British manufacturers, and as the richest country in the world in minerals of all kinds."

Mr. Smith further emphasises the value and importance of issuing catalogues, price lists, and pamphlets printed in Spanish, and, if possible, profusely illustrated, to bring before the notice of a very conservative people new articles and modern types of old household ones.

He goes on to say: "I frequently meet people, in a position to buy, who will not look at anything printed in English. It is really diverting to see how the American patent medicine makers have literally imposed their goods by means of picturesque and really attractive advertisement sheets and other contrivances almost played out in the Old World. The lower classes decorate their rooms with these sheets, and have them ever before them until the article which they propose to bring before the consumer literally becomes a by-word." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,388.)

Quezaltenango (Guatemala).—In the opinion of H.M. Consul at Quezaltenango (Mr. C. Fleischmann) the outlook for trade during 1905 is very poor in that district of Guatemala, and manufacturers or exporters should be very careful not to sell otherwise than on a cash basis, as there are only very few firms of really good standing left there. Trade has passed more and more into the hands of merchants of Guatemala City, whence many retailers obtain their goods. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,400.)

Bulgaria.—The "Journal des Tarifs et Traités de Commerce" (Paris) states that the Philippopolis Chamber of Commerce and Industry have issued a circular announcing their intention to undertake the formation of a collection of illustrated catalogues, price lists, &c., issued by foreign manufacturers of machinery, tools and appliances, used in home industries, trades, manufactures, agricultural works, &c. This collection is being formed in view of the numerous demands for publications of this nature which are received by the Chamber.

Pensacola (Fla.).—The British Vice-Consul at Pensacola (Mr. F. Bonar) says in his report for 1904, that the remarks made by him in previous reports respecting British commercial travellers visiting that port have received no attention whatever in the

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British Trade Abroad.

United Kingdom, but foreign firms in France, Germany and other countries have taken advantage of the suggestions, and have made a remunerative business there.

Mr. Bonar mentions for the information of British correspondents that the postal regulations of the United States require the name of the State in which a town is situated to be given with the address, viz., Pensacola, Florida, or "Fla"; Washington, D.C., &c., and not "Pensacola" or "Washington," without mentioning the State. Several towns of the same name are found in different States, and letters addressed without the name of the State are delayed. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,401.)

Cadiz.—H.M. Consul at Cadiz (Mr. A. L. Keyser) remarks in his recent report "It is difficult to point actually towards openings for British trade in this Consular district. Trade is at present bad, and there has been considerable distress.

"Shipbuilding has ceased and the promised harbour works stand still. Long drought brought destruction to crops, while fruit has also failed. Horses and cattle lack food. In consequence there is no money for commercial progress. . . . .

"Agricultural machinery, shown at country fairs by agents conversant with the language, is always likely to attract purchasers.

"Those interested in mining are referred to the reports* from Seville, Huelva and Cordoba. In this direction there is room for development.

"The shortage of food for horses and cattle, owing to the drought, is a matter of immediate interest, since, unfortunately, its effects are likely to be of some duration.

"Questions daily reach this Consulate from traders wishing to push their goods in this country. In almost every case it is apparent that they would be welcomed by purchasers here, but it is necessary to qualify such replies by pointing out that the import duties would render it difficult for business to be transacted at a profit. . . . .

"It might be mentioned that there now seems a tendency for travellers to visit this part of Spain. In the wake of the tourist comes a demand for luxuries and conveniences, unthought of by the conservative inhabitants whose lives pass content in sunlit backwaters.

"Though questions can be answered fairly accurately, no written information compares with that gathered by personal inspection of the cities in which it is desired to trade. The South of Spain is full of possibilities for almost every branch of commercial expansion." (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,414.)

* Foreign Office Annual Series, 3,414, obtainable from Messrs. Wyman & Son, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., at a cost of 2*d*.

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TRADE OF CAPE COLONY.

With reference to the statement on p. 492 of the "Board of Trade Journal" for 15th June, the "Cape of Good Hope Government Gazette" of 26th May publishes statistics showing the value of the goods imported into and exported from Cape Colony during the four months ended 30th April, 1905, as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year, from which the following tables have been prepared:—

Imports into Cape Colony.*

Principal and other Articles.	Four Months ended 30th April.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Provisions of all kinds (*includes butter, cheese, chicory, coffee, meats, sugar, and tea*) ...	1,144,000	1,070,000
Metals and metal manufactures (*includes iron, lead, machinery, hardware, wire fencing, &c.*)	951,000	622,000
Corn and grain, &c. (*flour, maize, oats, wheat, and rice*)	581,000	535,000
Haberdashery	522,000	493,000
Cotton manufactures	280,000	333,000
Leather and leather manufactures (*includes boots and shoes, and saddlery and harness*)...	273,000	315,000
Wearing apparel (*includes hats*)	332,000	299,000
Wood, and manufactures of (*includes furniture*)	572,000	280,000
Stationery (*includes books*)	202,000	181,000
Woollen manufactures	139,000	126,000
Alcoholic beverages (*includes wine, beer, and spirits*)	128,000	115,000
Tobacco of all sorts	67,000	86,000
Drugs and chemicals	89,000	81,000
Soap and candles...	80,000	77,000
Carts and carriages (*includes bicycles*) ...	91,000	75,000
Animals, living	104,000	71,000
Pipes, iron and earthen	85,000	63,000
Agricultural implements	71,000	59,000
Oil, mineral	53,000	57,000
Coal, coke, and patent fuel	80,000	56,000
Arms and ammunition (*includes dynamite and blasting compound and powder*) ...	59,000	46,000
Confectionery (*includes jams*)	40,000	42,000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	38,000	39,000
Earthen manufactures	41,000	33,000
Paints, varnish and turpentine...	32,000	33,000
Bags, all sorts	22,000	33,000
Cement	29,000	31,000
Oilman stores (not edible)	23,000	24,000
Linen manufactures	15,000	19,000
All other articles of merchandise	1,237,000	921,000
Total merchandise ... £	7,380,000	6,215,000
Articles imported for the Colonial Government	733,000	179,000
Specie	30,000	17,000
Grand total, imports ... £	8,143,000	6,411,000

NOTE.—The official figures of imports into Cape Colony are exclusive of imports by the Imperial Government, but it may be noted that supplies for the Army are still partly contracted for on the spot.

* Exclusive of imports of diamonds and gold from States outside the Colony:—5,024,000*l.* during the first four months of 1904, and 6,689,000*l.* during the same period of 1905.

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Trade of Cape Colony (continued).

Exports from Cape Colony.

Principal and other Articles.	Four Months ended 30th April.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Gold (raw)	4,945,000	6,411,000
Diamonds	1,605,000	1,668,000
Wool (washed, scoured, and in the grease) ...	796,000	596,000
Ostrich feathers	340,000	350,000
Copper ore	177,000	189,000
Hides and skins	139,000	165,000
Hair, Angora	64,000	36,000
All other articles of merchandise	75,000	711,000
Total merchandise ... £	8,141,000	10,126,000
Imported goods, re-exported	127,000	154,000
Specie	819,000	14,000
Grand total, exports ... £	9,087,000	10,294,000

TRADE OF THE CONGO FREE STATE.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Foreign Office, from H.M. Minister at Brussels (Sir Constantine Phipps, K.C.M.G., C.B.), a review of the official trade statistics for 1904 of the Congo Free State, from which the following particulars are taken.

Total Value of Imports and Exports.

Year.	Imports.	Exports (of Congo State Produce).
	£	£
1900	988,000	1,900,000
1901	924,000	2,020,000
1902	723,000	2,002,000
1903	835,000	2,180,000
1904	933,000	2,070,000

It will be noted that there is a decrease in the exports (at the rate of 5 per cent.) of over 100,000*l.*, and an increase in imports (at the rate of 11·7 per cent.) of nearly 100,000*l.*

As regards the **exports** from the Congo State itself, that of copal, cocoa, palm oil, and coffee shows an appreciable increase, while there is a rather notable decrease of export of rubber and of ivory amounting to over 1,000,000 kilogrammes in the former and 18,000 kilogrammes in the latter case. The entire exportation of Congo State rubber was 4,831,000 kilogrammes, of which nearly 4,815,000 went, in the first instance, to Belgium.

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TRADE OF THE TRANSVAAL.

With reference to the statement on pp. 352-3 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of the 25th May, the following tables, showing the value of the principal and other articles imported into and exported from the Transvaal during the quarter ended 31st March, 1905, as compared with the corresponding period of the preceding year, have been compiled from official figures published in the "Transvaal Government Gazette" of 26th May:—

Imports.

Articles of Merchandise.	Quarter ended 31st March.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Metals and manufactures of (*includes agricultural implements, hardware, iron and steel manufactures, machinery, wire rope, &c.*)	710,000	638,000
Provisions, exclusive of corn and dairy products (*includes coffee, chicory, biscuits, meats, fresh and preserved, fish, fresh and preserved, jams, sugar, tea, vegetables, fruits, condiments, salt, &c.*) ...	570,000	565,000
Apparel, haberdashery, &c. (*includes hats*)	410,000	377,000
Corn and grain (*includes flour, meal and rice*) ...	285,000	313,000
Wood and manufactures (*includes furniture*)	233,000	215,000
Live animals	97,000	154,000
Drugs and chemicals	104,000	149,000
Dairy products (*includes butter and butterine, eggs, cheese, preserved milk, &c.*)	150,000	146,000
Leather and manufactures (*includes saddlery and boots and shoes*)	128,000	129,000
Beverages (*includes ale, spirits, wine and mineral waters*)	104,000	96,000
Arms and ammunition (*includes dynamite and other explosives*)	47,000	90,000
Cotton manufactures	52,000	76,000
Stationery and paper (*includes wall paper and books*)	71,000	75,000
Vehicles (*includes cycles and accessories*)	83,000	74,000
Groceries and oilmen's stores (*includes oils, paints, turpentine and varnish*)	80,000	73,000
Soap and candles	56,000	65,000
Tobacco, raw and manufactured (*includes cigars and cigarettes*)	46,000	56,000
Jewellery and plated ware (*includes clocks and watches*)	39,000	51,000
Electric cable wire and fittings	19,000	46,000
Tramway material...	25,000	37,000
Woollen manufactures	30,000	32,000
Instruments, musical and other	21,000	19,000
Glass and glassware	23,000	17,000
Cocoa, chocolate, and confectionery	14,000	17,000
Cement and lime	7,000	16,000
Earthenware and crockery	13,000	12,000
Bags (not leather or canvas)	9,000	11,000
Fuse	8,000	11,000
Toys and sporting goods	8,000	10,000
Coal, coke and patent fuel	6,000	10,000
Seeds, trees and plants	16,000	8,000
Carpets	5,000	5,000
Photographic material	5,000	4,000
Tobacconist ware	5,000	4,000
Linen manufactures	2,000	2,000
Other articles of merchandise	46,000	60,000
Total... ... ... £	3,527,000	3,663,000

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Trade of the Transvaal (continued).

Of the total value of merchandise imported into the Transvaal during the quarter ended 31st March, 1905, 1,235,000*l.* worth were sent *viâ* Cape Colony, 1,610,000*l.* worth *viâ* Natal, and 818,000*l.* worth *viâ* Delagoa Bay.

NOTE.—The above figures do not include free importations for Local Government or Military Stores, or Railway Material imported as "Government Stores."

Exports.

Articles.	Quarter ended 31st March.	
	1904.	1905.
	£	£
Gold	3,766,000	4,812,000
Diamonds	137,000	231,000
Animals, living	29,000	130,000
Wool	26,000	28,000
Coal	34,000	25,000
Tobacco of all kinds	14,000	15,000
Machinery	14,000	14,000
Haberdashery and millinery	7,000	11,000
Skins, hides, and horns	4,000	10,000
Vehicles (*includes cycles and accessories*)	7,000	8,000
Corn and grain	7,000	1,000
Other articles	41,000	85,000
Total ... ... £	4,086,000	5,370,000

ISTHMIAN CANAL COMMISSION.

From communications received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from H.M. Consul at Panama (Mr. C. C. Mallet, C.M.G.) it appears that the recent announcement to the effect that the Isthmian Canal Commission will purchase supplies in any market was intended to impress upon American manufacturers that they must quote their *export* prices, and not the prices they would charge to undertakings located in the United States, in respect of supplies for the Panama Canal.

It seems probable that the Panama Commission will purchase the bulk of the goods they require in America if the prices at all approximate those asked abroad, and a preference of as much as 20 per cent. in favour of American manufactures has been mentioned as likely.

The Chairman of the Canal Commission (Mr. Shonts), who is in complete charge of the purchase and delivery of all material and supplies, will reside mainly in the United States, and will have his office in the Mills Building, 17th Street, Washington, D.C., its formal designation being "Isthmian Canal Affairs, Office of Administration."

With regard to the rates of the Panama railway for through traffic, Mr. Mallet states that no change is likely to take place

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until after July 1st, when the exclusive contract with the American Pacific Mail Steamship Company will have expired.

He says that the policy of the Federal Government in relation to the Panama transit trade has been authoritatively outlined, and that in accordance with such policy it is intended to charge nothing more than reasonable rates by the Panama railway, and to permit no discrimination against, or in favour of, any of the connecting steamship lines. The three steamships owned by the Panama Railway Company which ply between New York and Colon will continue to run, with the object of preventing a combination to raise rates.

It is further stated that the United States Government do not expect to run a connecting line between Panama and San Francisco, and that every effort will be made to break up monopolistic compacts.

Mr. Mallet reports that amongst improvements contemplated, the Panama railway is to be double-tracked, and docking facilities at both ends improved and enlarged to meet the requirements of increased traffic. Schools are to be built, and official residences for the Governor and Staff at Ancon, and also for heads of departments, as well as wooden residences for employees, will be erected.

The work of paving the streets of the city of Panama is to be commenced in July.

FOREIGN TRADE AND SHIPPING OF CHINA IN 1904.

The following article on the foreign trade and shipping of China in 1904 is based on the "Report on the Trade of China, and Abstract of Statistics" for 1904, recently published by order of the Inspector-General of the Chinese Imperial Customs, and is in continuation of the article published in the "Board of Trade Journal" of 2nd, 9th, and 16th June, 1904:—

[NOTE.—The average value of the Haikwan tael is stated to have been 2*s.* 7⅔*d.* in 1903 and 2*s.* 10⅔*d.* in 1904. Picul = 133⅓ lbs. av. or 3 piculs = 400 lbs.]

I.—General.

The war appears to have been of minor importance among the conditions affecting the trade of China during the year. A large area of production and consumption was cut off, and trade was hampered, to some extent, but the direct effect was not clearly perceptible. Indirectly, of course, some effect was produced. The monetary stringency existing since 1900 and well marked at the end of 1903, became more pronounced as the war went on, and must be held accountable for some, at least, of the stagnation prevalent during 1904. Among imports, textiles (a third of the whole) alone show no expansion, a fact due directly to the inflated cost of the raw material. These various causes have had their influence in producing the depression which characterised certainly the first nine months of the year, but among all other causes the

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fluctuations in exchange must not be lost sight of. Trade can adjust itself to a low exchange or to a high exchange, or even to a shifting exchange if the movement can be foreseen; but a state of things which introduces the element of gambling into the business of every day, which makes it impossible for a merchant to estimate the amount in one currency which will give him a profit in another, and which may even make it doubtful if a profit actually realised in one currency can be safely landed in another, all this increases the cost of trading by enforcing the wisdom of large margins, and by so much, acts as a restraint on trade. It is high time that all interested in the prosperity of the trade of China used such influence as they possess to further any method of reform which will ensure stability of exchange.

The negotiation of the commercial treaties pursues its leisurely course. In 1902 was concluded the British treaty, and those with Japan and the United States of America in 1903; to these has now to be added that with Portugal, signed in 1904, but not yet ratified. Two new treaty ports were opened during the year 1904 —Kongmoon, in Kwangtung, on the 7th March, and Changsha, in Hunan, on the 1st July.

The values of the articles entering into the foreign trade of China have during 1904, for the first time uniformly, been settled on the basis of the cost of the goods at the moment they enter into China's international exchange—the c.i.f. value in the case of imports and the f.o.b. value for exports. This breaks the continuity of the tables of value, but it was thought better to make the break and have one value for all statistical purposes, than to continue the practice of having one system of valuation for the tables of merchandise and another for statistical use found in the summary at the end of each year's report on the trade of the Empire. The value given to the total trade of the year, Hk. tls. 583,547,291, is 8 per cent. more than the value for 1903 given in the tables and 7 per cent. more than that given in the summary, the discrepancy being explainable by the fact that import values were at some ports already on a f.o.b. basis in 1903. The inclusion of the heading "Trade by junk not otherwise recorded" brings within the purview of the Imperial Maritime Customs practically the whole foreign trade of China, excepting some small quantities arriving at or leaving a few unimportant points on the coast.

II.—Imports.

The net **imports** were valued at Hk. tls. 344,060,608, an increase of 5 per cent. over 1903. Up to a few years ago the recorded values were based on market price; of recent years some ports gave market price and others c.i.f. value; but for 1904 the value of each article of trade is the value at moment of landing (the c.i.f. value). Comparison is therefore to be made with the total, Hk. tls. 310,453,428, which appears in the summary at the close of the report for 1903—and the increase is actually 11 per cent.

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Foreign Trade and Shipping of China in 1904.

Cotton manufactures were imported in smaller quantities, speaking generally, than in 1903. Plain fabrics (shirtings, sheetings, T-cloths, drills, and jeans) had declined from 19,015,300 pieces in 1902 to 13,835,506 pieces in 1903, and in 1904 fell further to 12,949,964 pieces. Of these plain fabrics, English mills supplied 7,841,605 pieces in 1903 and 8,109,020 pieces in 1904, thus showing a prompt seizing of the opportunity to replenish the market; American mills supplied 4,782,141 pieces in 1903 (already a much reduced output) and 3,703,548 pieces in 1904, a reduction explainable partly by the necessity of first supplying the American market, partly by the distance from the China market, and partly because the American mills are most affected by any reduction in demand from Manchuria; the Japanese mills supplied 730,723 pieces in 1903 and 607,312 pieces in 1904, a reduction the more certainly attributable to the effects of the war and the resulting high cost of credits. Fancy makes of cotton goods, articles of luxury the demand for which increases in time of prosperous trade and in the price of which the raw material counts for a smaller proportion, increased in value from Hk. tls. 19,320,246 in 1903 to Hk. tls. 24,162,260 in 1904. Chintzes, prints, and Turkey reds were markedly less in quantity and value, but there was a considerable development in cotton imitations of superior fabrics, such as Italians, lastings, Spanish stripes, flannel, &c. **Cotton yarn** fell from 2,738,448 piculs in 1903 to 2,280,878 piculs in 1904, the proportion to the total value of all cotton manufactures of this semi-finished product having fallen from 52 per cent. in 1903 to 48 per cent in 1904. Yarn reached record prices during the year, and the best makes of the Japanese mills realised fully 10 per cent. higher prices than Indian spinnings; Indian yarn was 252,128 piculs less, and Japanese 192,677 piculs less, than in 1903. Taking the average of the three years 1902-4, a consumption of 2,489,099 piculs is obtained; the output of the mills in China is estimated at 750,000 piculs, of which about two-thirds come from those at Shanghai and one-third from those elsewhere; and this gives a total of about 3,240,000 piculs of machine-spun cotton yarn consumed by the people of China.

Woollens call for no comment; their value remains at about 4 million taels, the value of the import of 40 years ago. Those who can afford woollens prefer silks and furs, and the wearers of cotton-wadded garments and sheep skins cannot afford woollens.

Metals increased in value by over a third; the increase is observable all along the line, the only marked exception being steel. The exaggerated increase in copper (slabs, sheets, &c., from 90,997 to 273,910 piculs) and in spelter (from 1,090 to 14,326 piculs) is attributable to the demands of the Mints.

The import of **rice**, which in 1903 was less than a third of the 1902 importation, rose in 1904, by 20 per cent., to 3,356,830 piculs; with the excellent crops in Kwangtung in 1903 and 1904,

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it may be assumed that its industrial urban population will always call for foreign supplies. **Rice bran** was also imported to the amount of 2,311,658 piculs.

Cigars and **cigarettes** increased in value from 2½ to 3¼ million taels; while **household stores** and **wine, beer** and **spirits** maintained the value of 1903.

Flour comes for the most part from Hongkong, but in bags with the imprint of American flouring mills; the quantity increased from 766,324 to 937,946 piculs.

Under **dyes** the only point to attract attention is the increase in the import of artificial indigo, from 11,818 to 18,819 piculs; vegetable indigo, a Chinese product made foreign by passing through Hongkong, also increased from 70,814 to 78,447 piculs. Other synthetic dyes maintained 1903 figures.

Kerosene oil continues to show increased imports, the total quantity having risen from 84,998,335 gallons in 1903 to the enormous figure of 156,891,235 gallons in 1904, an increase of 84 per cent.; to the total import of the two years 1903 and 1904 American oil contributed 37 and 43 per cent., Russian 16 and 21 per cent., and Sumatra 47 and 35 per cent. respectively. Borneo oil, under that name, is much reduced, and California oil has made its first appearance.

Sugar of all kinds increased from 3,202,980 piculs in 1903 to 3,747,563 piculs.

Railway plant was less, at Hk. tls. 6,046,459 in value, and other **machinery** increased in value, by a fourth, to Hk. tls. 2,660,039.

III.—Exports.

The total value of exports was Hk. tls. 239,486,683, an increase of 11 per cent. over 1903. As has been noted, this is the value f.o.b., whereas 1903 values were based on the market price. During the past year special efforts were made at Shanghai—the port at which, whether as export or as re-export, is shipped over half the native produce leaving China—to obtain the true values from the ports of original shipment. The value given above is to be compared with that given in the summary at the end of the report for 1903, viz., Hk. tls. 236,205,162.

In the enumeration of exports, **Tea** is still given first place, on account of its past importance. The total shipments of all kinds amounted to 1,451,249 piculs, a decrease of 226,281 piculs. Black leaf shows no diminution; green leaf fell off 60,474 piculs, fairly distributed over all the consuming markets; and brick tea, black and green together, accounts for the rest of the reduction, being less by 170,763 piculs. The lessened export of brick tea left a larger quantity of dust available for shipment. Large shipments of green tea in the two previous years lessened the demand during the past year; and the reduction in the export of brick tea is explainable by the difficulties of transport to the consuming area in Asiatic Russia.

(*To be continued.*)

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PROPOSED TARIFF CHANGES.

ARGENTINE REPUBLIC.

Proposed Reductions of Import Duties.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of information to the effect that the Argentine Minister of Finance has presented to the Congress a Bill to abolish the surtax of two per cent. *ad valorem* which is at present leviable on all articles which, on importation into the Republic, are subjected to a Tariff duty of ten per cent. or more.

The same Bill proposes the reduction of the Customs duties on a number of articles, as shown in the following statements:—

I.—*Ad valorem* Duties.

Articles.	Present Duty (Per cent. on Official Valuation).	Proposed Duty (Per cent. on Official Valuation).
Ready-made clothing of silk, wool, cotton, mixed, &c. ...	50	40
Ready-made shirts, ties, corsets, underlinen, &c.	50	40
Trunks, portmanteaux, bags	50	40
Boots	50	40
Mosaic	50	40
Furniture	50	40
Hats and caps of silk, wool, cotton, or straw; and ladies' hats	50	40
Stockings of cotton, wool, silk	45	40
Blankets of wool, or of wool and cotton mixed	40	35
Underclothing of wool or cotton	40	35
Screws, bolts, nuts	40	35
Tissues of wool, or of wool and cotton mixed	35	30
Anhydrous ammonia	10	5
Machines (certain kinds)	10	5
Lead, in pigs or sheets	10	5
Tin, in ingots or sheets	10	5
Watches of metal, including silver	25	5

II.—Specific Duties.

Articles.	Unit.	Present Duty.	Proposed Duty.
		Dols. gold	Dols. gold
Vegetable oils, not otherwise mentioned ...	Kilog.	0·10	0·08
Linseed oil	"	0·10	0·08
Cocoanut and palm oil	"	0·04	0·03
Starch	"	0·08	0·06
Rice	"	0·02	0·02 or 0·01½
Vermicelli, macaroni, &c.	"	0·07	0·04
Sardines	"	0·07	0·05
Yerba tea (prepared)	"	0·04	0·02½
" (unprepared)	"	0·01½	
Beer, in casks	Litre	0·09	0·08
" in bottle	Bottle	0·12	0·10
Wooden matches	Kilog.	0·40	0·25
Kerosene	Litre	0·03	0·02
Paper, common white, for newspapers	Kilog.	0·02½	0·02
" coloured, for packing	"	0·10	0·09
" writing	"	0·05	0·04
French nails	"	0·02½	0·02
Collars of cotton or of linen	Doz.	1·25	1·00
Cuffs of cotton or of linen	Doz. pairs	2·00	1·50
Hats of woollen felt	Each	0·35	0·30

H.M. Minister at Buenos Aires, in forwarding this information, states that the above changes, if sanctioned by Congress, will presumably take effect from 1st January, 1906.

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TARIFF CHANGES AND CUSTOMS REGULATIONS.

AUSTRALIAN COMMONWEALTH.

Drawback of Duty on Rope and Cordage.

A copy of the "Commonwealth of Australia Gazette" for 29th April last has been received, notifying that, in accordance with the provisions of Customs Regulation No. 131, a drawback of duty may be allowed on rope and cordage used in the manufacture of articles within the Commonwealth upon the exportation of such manufactured articles therefrom:—Provided, however, that before drawback be allowed the Collector shall be satisfied that the drawback claimed is properly due; also that he may, if he deems it necessary, require the manufacture of the article, in which rope or cordage is used, to take place under the supervision of an officer.

NEW ZEALAND.

Customs Decisions.

A copy of the "New Zealand Gazette" for 11th May last has been received, containing an Order (No. 774) which was issued by the Commissioner of Trade and Customs on 10th May, 1905, giving Customs Decisions respecting the rates of duty leviable on various articles imported into New Zealand.

The following are the principal decisions given:—

Articles, and how classed.	Rates of Duty.
Graining-roller, Bellamy's patent—	
As artificers' tools	Free
Jelly bags—	
As druggists' sundries, n.o.e....	15 % *ad val.*
Marble tiles, dressed on upper surface—	
As marble, dressed or polished	25 % "
Pea-nut roaster—	
As manufactures, n.o.e., of metal	20 % "
Springs, trace, of wrought-iron, for harness—	
As manufactures, n.o.e., of metal	20 % "
Tabs, having on them the name of a New Zealand manufacturer, for mattresses or clothing	Free
Time-detector, electric—	
As machinery, n.o.e.	20 % *ad val.*
Tinsel, white, and gold, used in the manufacture of artificial flies—	
As n.o.e.	Free

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

BRITISH CENTRAL AFRICA PROTECTORATE.

Drawback of Duty on Gunny Bags, &c.

A copy of the "British Central Africa Gazette," for April 29th last has been received containing a Proclamation issued at Zomba on 29th April, 1905, and notifying that a drawback will be allowed of 10 per cent. *ad valorem* import duty paid on gunny bags, gunny cloth, sacking and hooping, and other materials imported into the Protectorate and used for packing cotton or other goods the produce of the Protectorate, for export, on proof being produced to the Director of Customs that such materials, have been *bonâ fide* so used, and have left the Protectorate.

The Proclamation further states that retrospective effect will be given from 1st March, 1905.

MAURITIUS.

Regulations affecting Importation of Cattle from Madagascar.

With reference to a notice in the "Board of Trade Journal" for 16th November, 1904, respecting the prohibition, under Proclamation 36 of 1904, of the importation of cattle, &c., from certain parts of Madagascar into Mauritius, the Board of Trade have now received a copy of a further Proclamation (No. 17 of 1905), dated 14th April, 1905, repealing Proclamation 36 of 1904, and notifying that the importation of bovines from all places situated south of a line extending from Fort Dauphin to Tulear, in the south of Madagascar, into the Colony, may be allowed on condition that such animals before embarkation shall be subject to the tuberculin test, and shall be accompanied by a certificate from a duly qualified official testifying to their freedom from disease.

The introduction of litter and manure from the parts of Madagascar above referred to is prohibited, except the litter and manure of bovines allowed to be landed under the present Proclamation.

EGYPT.

Importation of Cattle from certain Countries.

The Egyptian "Journal Officiel" for the 10th June contains a Decision of the *Conseil Sanitaire, Maritime et Quarantenaire*, relating to the disembarkation and slaughter of cattle imported into Egypt from Asia Minor, Russia, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Roumania, and other countries where the presence of cattle disease is recognised or suspected.

The text of this Decision may be seen by persons interested on application at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C.

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

SWITZERLAND.

Date of Operation of New Tariff.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a copy of a Decree of the Swiss Federal Council, dated the 4th April, 1905, providing that the new Swiss General Tariff of the 10th October, 1902, as modified by the Commercial Treaties concluded between Switzerland and other States, is to come into force on 1st January, 1906.

The Federal Council reserves to itself the right to apply any of the new General Tariff duties, should circumstances require it, before the 1st January, 1906.

SPAIN.

Prolongation of Customs Regime Established by Swiss-Spanish Commercial Treaty.

With reference to the notice which appeared at p. 555 of the "Journal" for the 22nd September, 1904, relative to the denunciation of the Swiss-Spanish Commercial Treaty of the 13th July, 1892, the Board of Trade are now in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Bill which has been laid before the Cortes, authorising the Spanish Government to continue to apply, until the 1st March, 1906, if necessary, the reduced import duties established in Tariff B of the above-mentioned Commercial Treaty to the products of nations which accord most-favoured-nation treatment to Spanish products.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Customs Decisions.

The following is the substance of some Decisions affecting the application of the United States Customs Tariff, which have recently been issued by the Treasury Department at Washington :—

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of Duty.	
			Dols. Cts.
Dead rabbits	274 & Sec. 7	Lb.	0 02
Toy watch chains.—Small brass chains costing less than 2 cents each, intended for the amusement of children, and imported attached to or separate from toy watches; dutiable as "toys"	418	35 % *ad val.*	
Lithographic prints on gelatin.—Thin sheets of gelatin cut in the form of fish, human figures, &c., and having printed thereon by lithographic process advertisements of business firms; dutiable as lithographic prints	400	Lb.	0 20
[This modifies a Decision reported at p. 602 of the "Journal" for the 29th September, 1904.]			

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Articles.	Paragraph of the Tariff under which dutiable.	Rate of duty.
		Dols. Cts.
Dyers' sticks made of bamboo, the ends rounded and the joints smoothed	700	Free
Silk veilings.—Woven goods, of light texture, composed of silk, 45 centimetres in width, having closely woven borders of the same colour as the body of the fabric, which are especially designed and adapted for use as veilings or in making veils, used chiefly for that purpose and known commercially as "chiffon veils," or "veilings"; dutiable as "veilings"	390	60 % *ad val.*
Silk chiffons.—Woven fabrics in the piece, of light texture, composed of silk, 54 centimetres in width, having borders or selvages of the same colour as the body of the fabric, which are generally known in trade as "silk chiffon" or "mousseline," or "mousseline soie," or "muslin"; dutiable as woven silk fabrics in the piece	387	Various rates according to weight, condition, &c.
Zinc ore free from sulphur in its natural state and comprising both carbonates and silicates of zinc; as calamine	514	Free
Cotton knitted shawls; dutiable as cotton wearing apparel	314	50 % *ad val.*
Button material.—Manufactures of cloth, woven or made in patterns of such size, shape, or form, or cut in such manner as to be fit for buttons exclusively, which have been embroidered by hand or machinery	339	60 % "
Cotton cloth with silk figures.—Cotton cloth containing figures produced by extra threads of silk; dutiable as cloth composed of cotton and silk, of which cotton is the component material of chief value	311	sq. yd. 0 08 and 30 % *ad val.*
Ground pepper shells or cuticle.—A residuum from the process of decorticating the pepper berry, in the form of a fine powder, which, without further grinding, is used to adulterate ground pepper; dutiable under the provision for "spices not specially provided for"	287	Lb. 0 03
Nickel or *nickel alloy* in which nickel is the component material of chief value, in pieces about 7 feet in length, cut from wide sheets; dutiable as sheet nickel...	185	" 0 06
Vegetable tracing paper; dutiable as paper not otherwise provided for	402	25 % *ad val.*
Orchil extract, a sulphonated colouring matter produced from orchil or orchil liquid, which consists of a dark green substance in the form of irregular particles with a metallic lustre	58	30 " "
Gelatin spangles, strung, used in making trimmings and ornaments for wearing apparel ...	408	60 " "

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

Tools of trade to be entitled to free entry under paragraph 645 of the Tariff must arrive in this country on the same vessel as the person owning them and claiming the privilege.

Strawboard.—(1) Unlined strawboard:—(i.) A variety made by pasting or causing to adhere together two or more separate sheets of strawboard, after each sheet has been finished in the rollers, is dutiable under paragraph 407, as a "manufacture of paper not specially provided for," at the rate of 35 per cent. *ad valorem.*

(ii.) A variety consisting of single sheets of strawboard made by one rolling of the pulp through the rollers, is dutiable as "paper not specially provided for," under paragraph 402 of the Tariff, at the rate of 25 per cent. *ad valorem.*

(2.) Lined strawboard having a white newspaper lining:—(i.) A variety made by pasting or causing to adhere together two or more separate sheets of strawboard, after each sheet has been finished in the rollers, and by pasting thereon the lining, is dutiable under paragraph 407, as a "manufacture of paper not specially provided for," at the rate of 35 per cent. *ad valorem.*

(ii.) A variety made by a process called "mill lining" or "pulp lining," consisting of a single sheet of strawboard upon which the lining is placed at the time of manufacture of the board, is dutiable under paragraph 402 as "paper not specially provided for," at the rate of 25 per cent. *ad valorem.*

Fresh frozen smelts packed and imported in boxes, each box containing less than one-half barrel, are dutiable at the rate of 30 per cent. *ad valorem,* under paragraph 258 of the Tariff.

Hydraulic hose composed of countable cotton cloth is dutiable as a countable cotton cloth under paragraph 305 of the Tariff.

Imports from Luxemburg.—Goods imported from the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg are entitled to benefit under the Reciprocity Convention between the United States and Germany.

"Preserved" fruits.—The word "preserved," as used in paragraphs 267 and 627 of the Tariff, has no technical or commercial meaning different from its ordinary signification, namely, to put in a condition of preservation so as to resist fermentation or decay.

Orange peel in brine is dutiable as "orange peel preserved" at the rate of 2 cents per lb. under paragraph 267.

Gauge of whisky.—Imported whisky which has been entered in bond for warehouse is properly assessable for duty under paragraph 289 of the Tariff, on the quantity of the whisky as ascertained at the time of entry in bond, and not upon the quantity as shown by the gauge of the whisky at the time of the withdrawal from bond.

Clerical error—Correction after liquidation.—Where entry of certain merchandise is inadvertently made on an invoice which, through

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Tariff Changes and Customs Regulations.

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—*continued.*

clerical error, states the value incorrectly in that it fails to show that the value given includes certain non-dutiable charges, this resulting in the assessment of a higher rate of duty than would otherwise be applicable, and the first notice of the error received by the importer is after the liquidation of the entry at the increased rate, the real value of the merchandise may be shown and the rate of duty corrected accordingly.

Metal-thread fabrics in the piece are dutiable as "other articles made wholly or in chief value of metal threads," under paragraph 179 of the Tariff, at the rate of 60 per cent. *ad valorem.*

Wool on the skin—Mocha sheepskins.—Skins of the white-head mocha sheep, having a growth a certain percentage of which is wool of a low order, are dutiable at the rate of 3 cents per lb. under paragraph 360 of the Tariff relating to "wools on the skin."

BOLIVIA—CHILE.

Importation into Bolivia *viâ* Chile.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Decree recently issued by the Chilean Ministry of Finance, establishing the procedure to be adopted for the importation of foreign merchandise into Bolivia *viâ* Chilean territory, in accordance with the provisions of the Treaty recently concluded between the two countries.*

The despatch of foreign merchandise for Bolivia is to be carried out in the Custom-house of Arica. The Customs authorities at Arica are, on receipt of promissory notes at 40 days for the amount of the duties guaranteed, to make out and sign way-bills, and are to give the Bolivian Customs Agency facilities for carrying out the formalities required by the Bolivian Government. The merchandise will then be transported by cartroad under seal through Corocoro and La Paz to the Custom-house at La Portada where it will be examined. The way-bills, accompanied by counter receipts from the interior Bolivian Custom-houses proving that the importation has been effected, will be returned to Arica; and, provided that these documents are found to be in regular form and are presented within the period of 40 days, the promissory notes will then be cancelled; otherwise the payment of the amount of the promissory notes will be exacted.

* See "Board of Trade Journal" for the 4th May, pp. 212–3.

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SHIPPING AND TRANSPORT.

CAPE COLONY.

Railway Earnings.

The Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade have received a report from their correspondent at Cape Town (Mr. E. J. Cattell), in the course of which he states that the gross average weekly earnings of the Cape Government Railways have fluctuated as follows (January to May in each year):—

	£	Miles open.
1898	76,274	1,975
1899	74,173	1,990
1903	138,615	—
1904	107,103	2,417
1905	95,290	2,594

RUSSIA.

Amour Railway Projects.

The British Commercial Agent in Russia (Mr. Henry Cooke) states on the authority of the official "Commercial and Industrial Gazette" of St. Petersburg that the Commission on New Railways were to consider, on 7th/20th June, certain proposals made with reference to the construction of a railway along the Shilka and Amour, from Sretensk to Khabarovsk; likewise another project for the building of a line from Sretensk to Khabarovsk, with a branch line to Blagoviestchensk; and also a further proposal for the construction of a line between these two towns.

GERMANY.

Extension of Port of Bremen.

A despatch has been received at the Foreign Office, from the Commercial Attaché to H.M. Embassy at Berlin (Mr. Wm. S. H. Gastrell) reporting that the Prussian Landtag has recently sanctioned certain frontier alterations in order to increase the accommodation of Bremen harbour. This will enable the North German Lloyd Company to obtain the extensions they require for their ships, and also a new dry dock. The extensions will cost some 2,350,000*l.*, and 375,000*l.* are to be spent on the new dry dock.

Efforts to Improve Freight Rates.

H.M. Consul-General at Hamburg (Sir William Ward, C.V.O.), in his recently published Report (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,393), refers to the efforts made by German shipowners to improve freight rates, and to the formation of an international combination of owners of sailing vessels, which, it is stated, now comprises 80 per cent. of all British, German and French owners of sea-going sailing ships, who have improved their position by fixing the minimum rates of freight acceptable by them.

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Shipping and Transport.

In this connection, a communication has been received at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade from Sir William Ward, reporting that a meeting of the Committee of the "Sailing Ships International Union" took place recently at Hamburg, at which representatives from Glasgow, London, Greenock, Nantes, Dunkirk, Bremen and Hamburg were present. It was stated at the meeting that more than 800 sailing vessels now belong to the Union, which represent altogether about 1½ million register tons of shipping. The only important resolution passed at the meeting was that an abatement of the reduction for direct ports to 9*d.* instead of 1*s.* 3*d.*, as hitherto fixed, is to come into force on and after the 1st September next.

DUTCH EAST INDIES.

Pilotage and Wharfage Charges at Macassar.

The British Vice-Consul at Macassar (Mr. S. P. Stephens) reports that since February last pilots have been stationed at that port; the fees are:—2 fl. 50 c. (4*s.* 2*d.*) for ships not exceeding 500 cubic metres* net tonnage, 5 fl. (8*s.* 4*d.*) for ships not exceeding 1,000 cubic metres net tonnage. 25 fl. (41*s.* 8*d.*) per 24 hours is the wharfage charge for all ships. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,403.)

* 2·83 cubic metres = 1 ton.

SPAIN.

Suggested Reduction in Railway Rates for Foodstuffs and Fodder.

The "Gaceta de Madrid" of 19th June contains a Royal Order urging the Spanish Railway Companies to effect reductions, either temporary or permanent, in the rates for the transport of the principal foodstuffs and of fodder. This Order is issued with a view to obtaining for consumers in all parts of Spain the benefit of the recent reductions in duties on wheat and flour (see p. 208 of the "Board of Trade Journal" of 4th May), and of certain reductions in duties on barley and oats, and of the abolition of duties on fodder provided for in a Law which will shortly be submitted to the Cortes.

ITALY.

State Administration of Railways.

The "Gazzetta Ufficiale" of 24th June contains a Decree establishing provisions for the appointment of a staff to work the railways which will be taken over by the State on 1st July, in accordance with the Law of 22nd April, 1905 (summarised on pp. 216-7 of "Board of Trade Journal' of 4th May).

The "Gazzetta," which contains particulars as to the headquarters of the various sections of the administrations, may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

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Shipping and Transport.

VENEZUELA.

Re-opening of the Port of Cano Colorado.—Opening of New Ports.

The Board of Trade are in receipt, through the Foreign Office, of a translation of a Decree of the Venezuelan Government re-opening the Custom House at Cano Colorado, and providing for the establishment of Custom Houses at Barrancas and at Rio Caribe. The ports named will be opened for export trade and for the importation of articles for local consumption.

The jurisdiction of the port of Barrancas is to include the courses and banks of all the streams of the Orinoco delta, from the bifurcation of Cano Piacoa down to the mouths of the Orinoco; while the port of Rio Caribe will extend from the bay of Carupano to the promontory of Paria.

CHINA.

Shipping at Newchwang.

H.M. Minister at Peking (Sir E. Satow, G.C.M.G.) reports that on the 28th March the port of Newchwang was officially declared open to navigation after the winter's closure by ice. An unusually large number of steamers have since entered; the greater bulk of their cargoes being supplies for the Japanese army in the shape of coal, oil, grain, wine, fuel, timber, &c. Export cargo is scarce on account of difficulties of transport from the interior.

COREA.

Railway Extension.

According to the report for 1904 of the Acting British Vice-Consul at Chemulpo (Mr. Harrington), the most important and interesting development of the year in Corea has been the rapid extension of the railway system throughout the country, one result of which will be greatly to stimulate trade by bringing the ports into easier communication with the interior.

At the end of 1903, besides the railway from Seoul to Chemulpo, only small sections of the Seoul-Fusan Railway at either end were completed, while the Seoul-Wiju line was represented merely by a few miles of embankments.

It was stipulated that the Seoul-Fusan railway should be open throughout its whole length by 1st January, 1905, and in fact by that date trains were running the whole distance. In a few places, however, incomplete tunnels and temporary bridges were employed, and probably the line will not be fully finished till the summer of 1905. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,407.)

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MINERALS, METALS AND MACHINERY.

CANADA—BRITISH COLUMBIA.

Mineral Production in 1904.

The following figures showing the output of minerals, &c., in British Columbia for the year 1904 are taken from an advance proof of the report of the Minister of Mines. The figures for 1903 are added for purposes of comparison :—

—	1903.		1904.	
	Quantity.	Value.	Quantity.	Value.
		Dols.		Dols.
Gold, placer ... ozs.	53,021	1,060,000	55,765	1,115,000
„ lode ... ... „	232,831	4,813,000	222,042	4,590,000
Silver ... ... „	2,996,204	1,521,000	3,222,481	1,720,000
Copper ... ... lbs.	34,359,921	4,547,000	35,710,128	4,578,000
Lead ... ... „	18,089,283	690,000	36,646,244	1,422,000
Coal ... Tons, 2,240 lbs.	1,168,194	3,505,000	1,253,638	3,761,000
Coke... „ „	165,543	828,000	334,102	1,192,000
Other materials	...	532,000	...	600,000
	—	17,496,000	—	18,978,000

GERMANY.

Consumption of Coal, &c.

The following table showing the consumption of coal, &c., in Germany during the years 1903-1904, is taken from the report of H.M. Consul-General at Berlin (Mr. P. Schwabach) :—

—	Quantity in 1,000 Metric Tons.							
	Bituminous Coal.		Lignite.		Coke.		Briquettes, &c.	
	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.	1903.	1904.
Production ...	116,664	120,694	45,965	48,500	11,509	12,331	10,476	11,413
Imports ...	6,767	7,299	7,962	7,669	433	550	85	125
Total ...	123,431	127,993	53,927	56,169	11,942	12,881	10,561	11,538
Exports ...	17,390	17,997	22	22	2,523	2,717	895	918
Consumption	106,041	109,996	53,905	56,147	9,419	10,164	9,666	10,620

(*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,390.)

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Minerals, Metals, and Machinery.

FRANCE—MADAGASCAR.

Gold Yield.

H.M. Consul at Antananarivo (Mr. T. P. Porter) reports that the yield of gold in Madagascar for the first three months of 1905 amounted to 20,833 ozs., being an increase of 3,569 ozs. on the corresponding period of 1904.

ITALY—SICILY.

Sulphur Industry.

H.M. Consul at Palermo (Mr. Sidney Churchill), in his recent report, remarks that for many years the sulphur mining industry of Sicily has been one of its most important sources of wealth. At the end of 1903 there existed no less than 685 mines, employing 30,818 individuals and showing an output of 3,428,691 tons of sulphur ore. During the last few years, owing to the short term still to run of the combination of the mine owners with the Anglo-Sicilian Sulphur Company, the sulphur mining industry has been passing through a crisis which is now approaching its culminating point, the contracts expiring on 31st July, 1906.

Mr. Churchill continues, "It is a little premature to speak of the future of the Sicilian sulphur industry, but a knowledge of the views of the local mine owners may be interesting. Two proposals are being ventilated; the first is a proposition for a combination by private agreement amongst local mine owners and the trade. The other scheme is that for a compulsory joint purse system, limiting the output."

The shipments of sulphur from Sicily during the year 1904 were 508,980 tons, and the stocks of sulphur remaining in Sicily on 31st December, 1904, according to the calculations of the Anglo-Sicilian sulphur company, were 370,606 tons.

Causes of Decreased Coal Import at Catania.

The British Vice-Consul at Catania (Mr. A. W. Elford) gives the quantity of coal imported into that port during the year 1904 as 91,051 tons, compared with 100,495 tons in 1903. Of the foregoing, 90,178 tons were from the United Kingdom, 295 tons from Sebenico (Dalmatia), 150 tons of foundry coke from Hamburg, 428 tons of gas coke from Malta. The decreased imports are ascribed by Mr. Elford to three causes:—(1) The considerable use of sansa, the exhausted refuse from the olive kernel, which is supplied by two oil factories at Catania, and is also imported in large quantities from Calabria, the price being about 6*s.* 6*d.* per ton delivered to buyers; it is free of town dues, whilst coal pays 3*s.* 2*d.* per ton. (2) The increased use of Downson gas engines using anthracite coal, and consequent decrease in consumption in comparison with steam engines. (3) The liquidation of a local shipping company whose three steamers always bunkered at the port. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,396.)

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AGRICULTURE.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Corn Prices.

The prices of British corn per quarter of 8 bushels, as received from the inspectors and officers of Excise in the week ended the 24th June, 1905, were as follow:—

Wheat	31*s.* 7*d.*
Barley	23*s.* 9*d.*
Oats	18*s.* 10*d.*

For further particulars see p. 613.

Imports of Agricultural Produce.

A statement is published on p. 614, showing the quantities of the various descriptions of agricultural produce imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 24th June, 1905, as well as of the imports during the corresponding week of 1904.

DUTCH EAST INDIES.

Tea Trade.

H.M. Consul at Batavia (Mr. D. D. Fraser) states in his recent report that the principal feature of the tea trade during the past year has been the establishment of a tea market in Batavia, three firms having started business, while several of the local houses contemplate taking up the trade.

The production has been increased by over 3,000,000 lbs., and a large area of new land has been laid out for tea culture with Assam seed, which insures a further increase of quantity to be disposed of in the near future. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,403.)

MISCELLANEOUS.

UNITED KINGDOM.

Cotton Statistics.

The number of bales of cotton imported into the United Kingdom during the week ended the 22nd June, 1905, was 94,923 (including 129 bales British West Indian and 100 bales British West African), and the number imported during the 25 weeks ended the 22nd June was 2,185,120 (including 2,997 bales British West Indian and 1,452 bales British West African). As regards exports, the figures are, for the week ended the 22nd June, 1905, 4,515 bales, and for the 25 weeks, 219,533.

For further details see p. 613.

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Miscellaneous.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Trade in 1904.

The Board of Trade have received, through the Colonial Office, from the Treasurer and Collector of Customs at Belize (Mr. H. B. Walcott) copy of the official statistics of imports and exports of British Honduras during the year 1904, from which it appears that the value of the total imports (excluding bullion and specie) was 1,632,000*l.*, as compared with 1,522,000*l.* in 1903. The principal imports consisted of provisions, cotton goods, corn and grain, leather manufactures and metal manufactures. The exports in 1904 of Colonial produce were valued at 1,104,000*l.* as compared with 1,054,000*l.* in 1903, the chief items being timber, fruits and gum.

Of the total value of imports during the year 1904, the United Kingdom contributed 467,449 dols., British Colonies 6,621 dols., United States 991,613 dols., and other foreign countries 291,636 dols. As compared with the previous year, the value of the imports from the United Kingdom and British Colonies increased to the extent of 3,534 dols. and 4,029 dols. respectively, as against an increase from the United States of 53,199 dols., and a decrease from other foreign countries of 76,419 dols.

The United States appear to be supplying from year to year a larger proportion of articles which in former years were obtained principally from the United Kingdom, such as:—Cotton goods, drugs and chemicals, hardware and cutlery, tinned provisions and rope and twine. This is believed to be largely due to the frequent visits to the Colony of agents of manufacturing and other firms in the United States, and to their willingness to supply goods suitable to local demands.

Trade with Canada and other British Colonies is still very small owing to the want of direct communication, the consequence being that the Colony obtains from the United States the whole of its food supply, which might be furnished to a large extent by Canada.

RUSSIA.

Law governing Purchase of Land in the Caucasus.

In view of the litigation to which the purchase, by foreigners, of land in the Caucasus has given rise, and the many applications for information made in this connection to Consular Officers, H.M. Consul at Rostov-on-Don (Mr. A. F. H. Medhurst) has forwarded to the Foreign Office a translation of the law concerning this question, which all British subjects desirous of acquiring land in that part of Russia are invited to study previous to purchasing, or, what is more common, previous to accepting land as a guarantee for a loan.

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Miscellaneous.

A translation of the law may be seen at the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade, 73, Basinghall Street, E.C., any day between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. (Saturdays, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.).

BELGIUM.

Proposed Exceptions to Law prohibiting Sale, &c., of Absinthe.

H.M. Minister at Brussels (Sir C. Phipps, K.C.M.G., C.B.) reports with reference to the law recently passed by the Belgian Chamber interdicting the production, transport, and the sale of absinthe, that the Senate has found it necessary to correct the terms of this enactment, and its committee of agriculture has made a proposal which, whilst interdicting similarly absinthe or any other liqueur containing essence of absinthe, makes an exception in favour of Chartreuse, Benedictine, Trappistine, bitters and other analogous liqueurs which do not contain more than one gramme of essence of any description per litre. The prohibition would not be made applicable to aromatized wines such as vermouth.

PORTUGAL—AZORES.

Certificate of Nationality required by Foreigners.

The Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs has received a despatch, dated the 16th May, 1905, from H.M. Consul at St. Michael's (Mr. W. Read), stating that the Governor of the Ponta Delgada district of the Azores (comprising the Islands of St. Michael and St. Mary) has expressed his intention of putting into force immediately the laws which ordain that foreigners on arriving in Portuguese territory are to present themselves within 48 hours to the Civil Governor in the capitals of districts or to the "Administrador do Concelho" in other towns, and produce a certificate of nationality from their respective Diplomatic or Consular authorities in order that permission to reside may be granted to them, under penalty of fine and expulsion from Portuguese territory.

COREA.

Improvement of Coinage.

The Acting British Vice-Consul at Chemulpo (Mr. Harrington) reports that an Imperial Ordinance, dated January, 1905, provides for the improvement of the coinage and the substitution of a new nickel coin, to date from June, 1905. This will involve a loan from Japan, 3,000,000 yen in specie being the sum named. (*Foreign Office, Annual Series*, 3,407.)

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STATISTICAL TABLES.

Cotton Returns.

Return of the **Number** of **Bales** of **Cotton Imported** and **Exported** at the **Various Ports** of the **United Kingdom** during the Week and 25 Weeks ended 22nd June, 1905 :—

—	Week ended 22nd June, 1905.	25 Weeks ended 22nd June, 1905.	Week ended 22nd June, 1905.	25 Weeks ended 22nd June, 1905.
	Imports. (Bales.)		Exports. (Bales.)	
	No.	No.	No.	No.
American	83,252	1,839,427	2,383	154,289
Brazilian	2,064	30,864	25	549
East Indian	248	24,972	32	7,096
Egyptian	6,965	255,242	2,046	55,840
Miscellaneous	2,394*	34,615†	29	1,759‡
Total	94,923	2,185,120	4,515	219,533

* Including 129 bales British West Indian and 100 bales British West African.
† „ 2,997 bales British West Indian and 1,452 bales British West African.
‡ „ 16 bales British West African.

Corn Prices.

Statement showing the **Average Price** of **British Corn,** per quarter of 8 bushels, Imperial Measure,* as received from the Inspectors and Officers of Excise in the week ended 24th June, 1905, and corresponding weeks of the seven previous years pursuant to the Corn Returns Act, 1882.

—	Average Price.					
	Wheat.		Barley.		Oats.	
	s.	d.	s.	d.	s.	d.
Week ended 24th June, 1905	31	7	23	9	18	10
Corresponding week in—						
1898	38	3	23	4	20	8
1899	25	7	24	2	18	0
1900	26	11	23	4	19	3
1901	27	6	25	4	20	0
1902	30	5	24	3	22	9
1903	27	6	22	0	18	6
1904	26	5	19	2	16	10

* Section 8 of the Corn Returns Act, 1882, provides that where returns of purchases of British Corn are made to the local inspector of Corn Returns in any other measure than the Imperial bushel or by weight or by a weighed measure that officer shall convert such returns into the Imperial bushel, and in the case of weight or weighed measure the conversion is to be made at the rate of sixty Imperial pounds for every bushel of wheat, fifty Imperial pounds for every bushel of barley, and thirty-nine Imperial pounds for every bushel of oats.

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Imports of Agricultural Produce into the United Kingdom.

Account showing the Quantities of certain kinds of **Agricultural Produce** imported into the **United Kingdom** in the week ended 24th June, 1905, together with the quantities imported in the corresponding week of the previous year.

—		Week ended 24th June, 1905.	*Corresponding Week in 1904.*
Animals, living :—			
Oxen, bulls, cows, and calves	Number.	8,516	*13,645*
Sheep and lambs	"	1,886	*5,105*
Swine	"	—	—
Horses	"	167	*211*
Fresh Meat :—			
Beef	Cwts.	111,501	*64,055*
Mutton	"	115,889	*35,911*
Pork	"	4,259	*4,257*
Salted or preserved meat :—			
Bacon	Cwts.	103,662	*112,016*
Beef	"	2,456	*2,372*
Hams	"	22,839	*38,251*
Pork	"	5,035	*5,952*
Meat, unenumerated, salted or fresh ...	"	17,172	*10,823*
Meat, preserved otherwise than by salting...	"	11,559	*11,072*
Dairy produce and substitutes :—			
Butter	Cwts.	78,495	*86,132*
Margarine	"	20,194	*18,375*
Cheese	"	64,785	*53,214*
Milk, fresh, in cans or drums	"	—	—
" cream	"	130	*195*
" condensed	"	18,858	*17,365*
" preserved, other kinds...	"	3	*101*
Eggs	Grt. Hundr.	476,373	*379,155*
Poultry	Value £	6,318	*6,239*
Game	"	15	*2*
Rabbits, dead (not tinned)	Cwts.	3,127	*248*
Lard	"	56,736	*46,745*
Corn, grain, meal, and flour :—			
Wheat	Cwts.	1,693,800	*2,112,100*
Wheat meal and flour	"	218,600	*194,800*
Barley	"	808,300	*106,500*
Oats	"	614,700	*192,800*
Peas	"	36,797	*42,230*
Beans	"	6,090	*3,160*
Maize or Indian corn	"	735,900	*528,500*
Fruit, raw :—			
Apples	Cwts.	8,755	*26,587*
Apricots and peaches	"	608	*945*
Bananas	Bunches.	147,442	*105,340*
Cherries	Cwts.	34,546	*43,990*
Currants...	"	3,812	*7,301*
Gooseberries	"	8,755	*10,248*
Grapes	"	157	*247*
Lemons	"	28,616	*17,424*
Oranges	"	24,541	*68,220*
Pears	"	2	*66*
Plums	"	69	*60*
Strawberries	"	5,807	*7,412*
Unenumerated	"	2,444	*5,326*
Hay...	Tons.	3,009	*4,169*
Straw	"	1,881	*3,375*
Moss Litter. (Not shown prior to 1905) ...	"	1,746	—
Hops	Cwts.	710	*693*
Locust Beans	"	12,240	*30*
Vegetables, raw :—			
Onions	Bushels.	65,701	*109,242*
Potatoes	Cwts.	428,162	*424,470*
Tomatoes	"	88,167	*46,692*
Unenumerated	Value £	13,557	*11,379*
Vegetables, dried	Cwts.	2,066	*2,742*
Preserved by canning...	"	1,825	*1,400*

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GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

TRADE RETURNS OF THE UNITED KINGDOM.

The Monthly Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom for the month of May, 1905, have been published. The accounts, which are issued on the 7th or 8th of each month, may be purchased at a cost, in the present instance of 1*s*. per copy, either directly or through any bookseller, from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; or Messrs. Oliver & Boyd, Edinburgh; or Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street, Dublin.

Attention is further called to the fact that Volume I. of the "Annual Statement of the Trade of the United Kingdom with Foreign Countries and British Possessions" for the year 1904, may be purchased at a cost of 7*s*. 7*d*. at any of the addresses enumerated above. This publication, which contains much more detailed and exhaustive information than can be given in the Monthly Accounts, gives Abstract Tables for the years 1900–1904, and detailed statements of imports and exports of each article (from and to each country). The second volume will contain details as to customs duties, trade in coin and bullion, transhipments, and articles in bond, and particulars of the trade of the United Kingdom with each foreign country.

THE BOARD OF TRADE LABOUR GAZETTE.

The "Board of Trade Labour Gazette" is published by the Board of Trade the 16th of each month. The following are among the more important articles which appear in the June issue:—State of the Labour Market in May; Relief of the Unemployed; Changes in Agricultural Rates of Wages in 1904; Accident and Sickness Insurance in Austria; and Recent Conciliation Cases.

FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

The following is a *résumé* of some of the more interesting subjects dealt with in Consular Reports of the Annual Series issued since the last number of the "Board of Trade Journal."

ANNUAL.

No. 3,409. Trade of Lyons, St. Etienne and Grenoble, 1904.

Depression in silk trade up to middle of 1904, but improvement subsequently.

Value of silk exports by countries, the United Kingdom taking 50 per cent. of the total.

Comparative statistics of production at Lyons and St. Etienne of all descriptions of silk manufactures, &c.

Conditions of Grenoble glove industry.

No. 3,410. Trade of Palestine, 1904.

Trade active, with prospects of continued development.

Increase in exports of oranges, wines and spirits, wool and skins, and in imports of machinery, iron bedsteads and hardware generally.

Progress of the German and Jewish colonies.

Results of experiments in cotton cultivation.

Construction of a disinfecting station off Jaffa.

This publication contains also the report of the Acting British Vice-Consul at Jaffa.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,411. Trade of Galicia, the Asturias and Leon, 1904.

Decline in trade of Corunna, owing to increased facilities at neighbouring ports.

Returns of imports and exports at Corunna, Ferrol, Gijon, Vigo, Villagarcia and Vivero.

Openings for trade in locks, improved farming tools and other labour-saving devices.

No. 3,412. Trade of Stockholm and Eastern Coast of Sweden, 1904.

Approximate figures of import and export of Sweden in 1904.

Prosperous condition of shipping trade.

Statistics of iron production and export.

Notes on the timber and wood pulp trades.

Electrification of railways.

Increasing use of motors, gas, gasoline and oil engines.

Trade in cereals.

Openings for British trade.

Returns of imports and exports at East Coast ports of Sweden.

This publication contains also reports by H.M. Representatives at Gefle, Lulea, Nykoping and Soderhamn.

No. 3,413. Trade of Dunkirk, 1904.

Decrease in imports, notably in coal and cotton, but increase in exports, chiefly in coal and steel rails to the French colonies.

Unsatisfactory condition of the metallurgical industry and the jute trade.

Share of British colonies and foreign countries in the shipping trade of the port.

Proposed dock extensions.

Comparative tables of imports and exports, with notes on character of trade.

No. 3,414. Trade of Cadiz, 1904.

Returns of imports and exports, with notes.

Stationary condition of the trade of the port. Need for harbour improvements.

Opening for steel works, motor car services, and for trade in connection with tourists' needs.

Notes on the sherry trade.

This publication contains also reports by the British Vice-Consuls at Algeciras, San Roque, Cordoba, Huelva, Seville.

No. 3,415. Trade of Muskat, 1904-5.

Increase of 163,969 dols. in value of imports, due chiefly to larger purchases of arms and ammunition, piece goods, coffee and rice.

Decrease of 455,540 dols. in exports, owing to falling-off in date crop.

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Government Publications.

No. 3,416. Trade of Central Italy, 1904.

Figures of imports into Rome, showing gradual improvement.

Opening for business in india-rubber, woollen cloths, scent and soaps.

Agricultural improvements.

Building revival.

New railways.

This publication contains also a report by the British Vice-Consul at Civitavecchia.

No. 3,417. Trade of Fiume, 1904.

Increased imports of maize (owing to shortage in Hungarian crop), rice, coal, and nitrates.

Notes on trade with United Kingdom, India, South Africa, &c.

Returns of imports, exports, and shipping.

No. 3,418. Trade of North Portugal, 1904.

Returns of trade, showing increasing imports from the United Kingdom, notably of coal and chemicals.

Wine trade still depressed; unpromising outlook for 1905 season.

Statistics of manufacturing industries.

Proposed railway and sewerage works.

Shipping returns at Oporto and Leixoes.

No. 3,419. Trade of Oregon, Washington and Idaho, 1904.

Notes on export trade in grain, fruit, timber, &c.

Declining share of the United Kingdom in import trade, except in respect of coke and plain earthenware.

Progress of manufacturing industries in Oregon.

Notes on fisheries and mining.

Condition of agriculture, horticulture, stock-farming, &c.

Returns of imports and exports at Portland, with remarks on character of trade.

This publication contains also reports by H.M. Representatives at Astoria, Port Townsend, Tacoma and Seattle.

No. 3,420. Trade of Kermanshah, 1904-5.

Increased imports of cotton goods from the United Kingdom, and exports of gum tragacanth.

Returns of imports and exports at Kermanshah and Kurdistan, with countries of origin and destination.

No. 3,421. Trade of Pakhoi, 1904.

Value of total trade lower owing to encroachment of rival routes.

Imports of British origin amount to 40 per cent. of the whole.

Increase in import of cottons, kerosene oil and rubber shoes.

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Government Publications.

OTHER GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS.

East India (Progress and Condition). Statement Exhibiting the Moral and Material Progress of India during the year 1903–04. 180. *Price* 1*s.* 7*d.*

This publication is prepared in the India Office from a large number of annual reports received from India. The administration, finance, public works, education, trade, &c., of the country are dealt with exhaustively. Tables of the net revenue and expenditure are appended to the report.

Twenty-Third Annual Report of the Fishery Board for Scotland. Part I. General Report. (*Cd.* 2,547.) *Price* 1*s.* 7*d.*

From this report it appears that in the year 1904 the highest catch on record in the sea-fisheries of Scotland was attained. It reached 7,947,829 cwts., or 1,081,801 cwts. more than in 1902—the previous best—and 1,429,021 cwts. more than in 1903. In the matter of value, however, the catch of 1904 does not compare so favourably, being lower than that of either 1902 or 1903. The total value of the fish landed in Scotland in 1904 was 2,231,102*l.*; in 1903, 2,401,287*l.*; and in 1902, 2,502,668*l.*

COLONIAL OFFICE REPORTS.

The following Reports relating to H.M. Colonial Possessions issued since 1st January, 1905, may be purchased from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.:—

Annual.

No.	Place.	Price.
—	Cyprus	2½*d.*
444	Basutoland...	3*d.*
445	Leeward Islands	2½*d.*
446	St. Vincent...	2*d.*
447	Bermuda	2*d.*

Miscellaneous.

No.	Place.	Price.
29	Ceylon. Reports on the results of the Mineral Survey in 1903–4	2½*d.*
30	Pitcairn Island. Report by Mr. R. T. Simons	1*d.*

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Government Publications.

LIST OF FOREIGN OFFICE REPORTS.

THE following Reports of H.M. Diplomatic and Consular Officers, which have been issued in the **Annual** and **Miscellaneous** Series since 1st January, 1905, may be obtained from Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Fetter Lane, E.C.

The titles of the Miscellaneous Series are printed in italics.

No.	Place.	Price
	EUROPE—	
	Austria-Hungary:	
3399	Austria-Hungary ...1904	1½*d.*
3343	Finances and General Economic Conditions 1900–04	6½*d.*
3417	Fiume 1904	1*d.*
3328	Trieste ... ... „	1½*d.*
	Belgium:	
3327	Antwerp—Shipping ...1904	7½*d.*
3325	Belgium—Finances 1904–05	1*d.*
	Bulgaria:	
3395	Bulgaria 1904	1*d.*
	Denmark:	
3324	Denmark (Supplementary) 1903	½*d.*
3392	Denmark 1904	3½*d.*
3404	Faroe Islands ... ... „	2*d.*
3350	Iceland 1901–03	1*d.*
	France and Colonies:	
3381	Bordeaux 1904	3*d.*
3330	Brest ... ... „	1½*d.*
3346	Calais ... ... „	2½*d.*
3378	Cochin-China ... ... „	1½*d.*
3413	Dunkirk ... ... „	1½*d.*
3368	Havre ... ... „	3½*d.*
3409	Lyons, St. Etienne and Grenoble ... ... „	1*d.*
3336	Nantes ... ... „	1*d.*
3383	Nice ... ... „	½*d.*
3389	Pondicherry and Karikal ... ... „	1*d.*
	German Empire:	
3402	Baden 1904	½*d.*
3342	Chemnitz and Saxony „	1*d.*
3333	Germany ... ... „	3*d.*
3390	„ (Supplementary ... ... „	2½*d.*
3393	Hamburg ... ... „	4*d.*
3358	Pomerania ... ... „	2½*d.*
624	*Memorandum on German Cement*	½*d.*
630	*Technical Instruction in Germany: Supplementary and Miscellaneous* ...	4*d.*
	Greece:	
3367	Cyclades 1904	1*d.*
3369	Morea, Ætolia and Acarnania ... ... „	1*d.*
3370	Piraeus ... ... „	1½*d.*
3361	Thessaly ... ... „	1½*d.*
	Italy:	
3416	Central Italy 1904	1½*d.*
3320	Italy 1903	1½*d.*
3338	Italy—Finances ...1904	1½*d.*
3396	Sicily ... ... „	3*d.*
3323	South Italy ... ... „	1½*d.*
3340	Venice 1903–04	1½*d.*
638	*Silk Trade and Yield of Cocoons in 1904*	*1d.*
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On application being made to it either personally or by letter, the Branch supplies, so far as is possible, information with regard to the following subjects, viz.: Commercial Statistics; Matters relating to Foreign and Colonial Tariffs and Customs Regulations; Lists of firms abroad engaged in particular lines of business in different localities; Foreign and Colonial Contracts open to Tender; Sources of Supply, Prices, &c., of Trade Products; Forms of Certificates of Origin; Regulations concerning Commercial Travellers, &c., &c. There is a Sample Room at the offices of the Branch, where, in addition to samples illustrative of reports of H.M. Consuls or of the Correspondents or Special Commissioners of the Board of Trade, specimens of special interest that may be received from the Imperial Institute, India, or the Colonies, &c., are exhibited from time to time.

The "Board of Trade Journal" is the principal medium through which intelligence collected by the Commercial Intelligence Branch, and intended for general information, is conveyed to the public. The "Journal" is now issued weekly at the price of 1*d*. All applications respecting subscription, or the purchase of single copies, should be addressed in London to Messrs. Wyman & Sons, Ltd., Fetter Lane, E.C., and 32, Abingdon Street, S.W.; in Edinburgh to Messrs. Oliver & Boyd; and in Dublin to Edward Ponsonby, 116, Grafton Street. Copies may also be obtained from Messrs. G. Street & Co., Ltd., 30, Cornhill, E.C.

THE IMPERIAL INSTITUTE.—In consequence of the transfer of the Imperial Institute to the Board of Trade from the beginning of 1903, the work formerly carried on by the Commercial Intelligence Office of the Imperial Institute is now conducted by the Commercial Intelligence Branch of the Board of Trade.

Among the branches of work now carried on by the Imperial Institute at South Kensington are the scientific investigation of the economic products of the British Empire with a view to their commercial utilisation, and the superintendence of the arrangement and classification of the Collection of these products which is exhibited at the Institute. From time to time samples and specimens of raw and manufactured products will be shown in the sample room at 73, Basinghall Street.

The "Imperial Institute Bulletin," issued quarterly, contains information and reports bearing on the work carried out in the Imperial Institute at South Kensington.

March, 1905.

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SPECIAL INDIAN AND COLONIAL TRADE ENQUIRY OFFICES.

India.—The India Trade Enquiry Office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., has been established for the purpose of supplying the general public with all available information as to the commercial products, manufactures and trades of British India.

The office is under the superintendence of an India Office official, who is in daily attendance to answer personal or written enquiries.

The current publications of the Government of India dealing with Indian Trade statistics, tariff charges, railways, economic products, &c., are kept in the office, and can be consulted free: the various Indian Directories are also filed.

Canada.—The Canadian Government have secured premises at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where an office has been opened under the designation of "Canadian Government Trade Enquiry Branch," for the convenience of the commercial community.

In due course it is intended to equip and maintain a display room, illustrating the products, resources and manufactures of the Dominion. In the meantime, a Canadian representative attends daily to deal with enquiries and applications in connection with Canadian import and export trade, and to supply information about Canadian matters generally. Personal appointments can be arranged when desired.

Cape of Good Hope.—The Government of the Cape of Good Hope have opened offices at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., for the purpose of a Commercial Agency for that Colony, which will be under the direction of the Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope.

Mr. Lewis Atkinson, who has been appointed Commercial Agent, attends daily to deal with enquiries on all Commercial and Trade matters connected with Cape Colony.

Queensland.—For the convenience of the commercial community in the City of London, the Agent-General for Queensland has opened a branch office at 73, Basinghall Street, London, E.C., where a representative attends daily to give information to enquirers regarding trade, mining, and all other matters in connection with Queensland.

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March, 1905.

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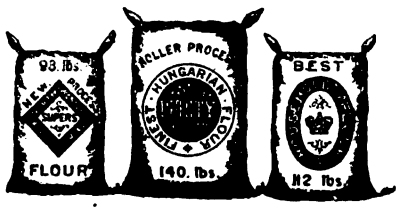

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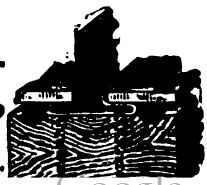

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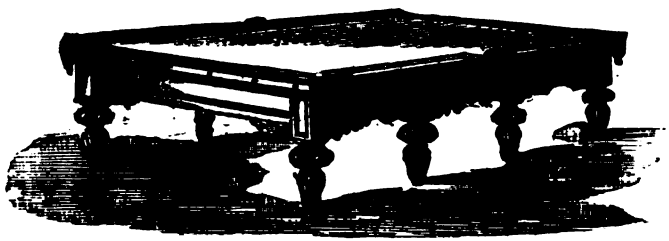

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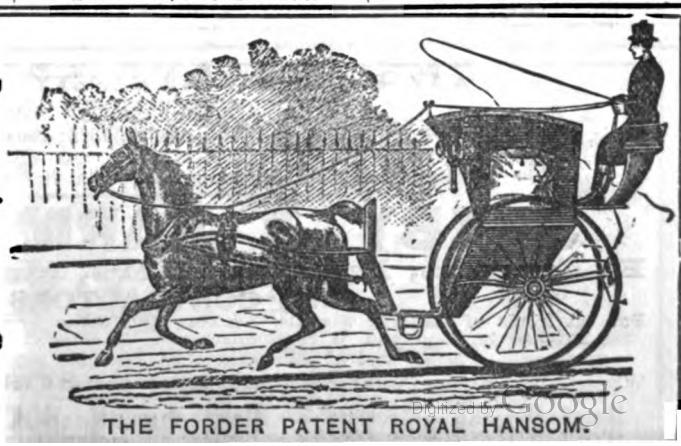

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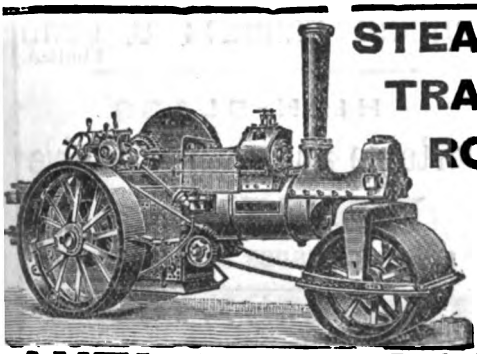

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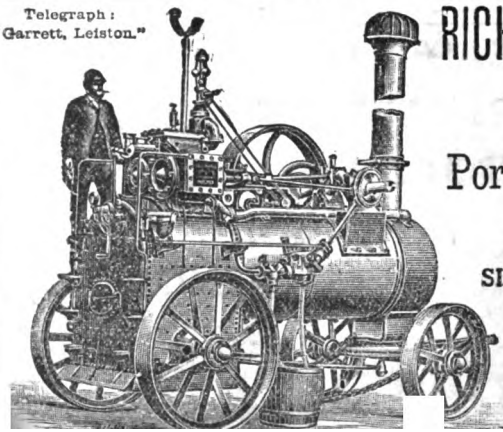

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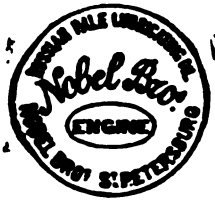

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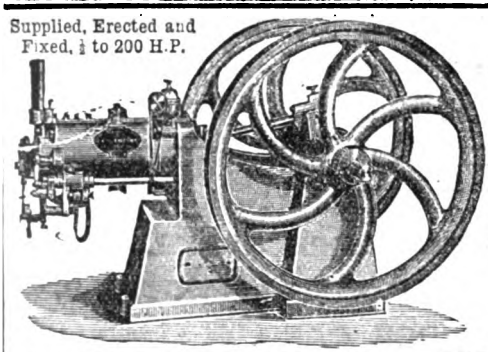

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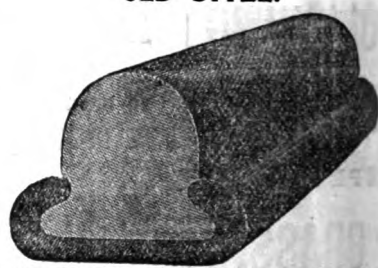

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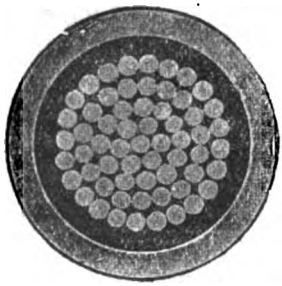

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